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Monday, May 16, 2011

Border patrol



Palestinian demonstrators throw burning tires in Ramallah in the West Bank, on May 15, 2011.

(Rina Castelnuevo/The New York Times).

By Ethan Bronner,

© 2011 New York Times

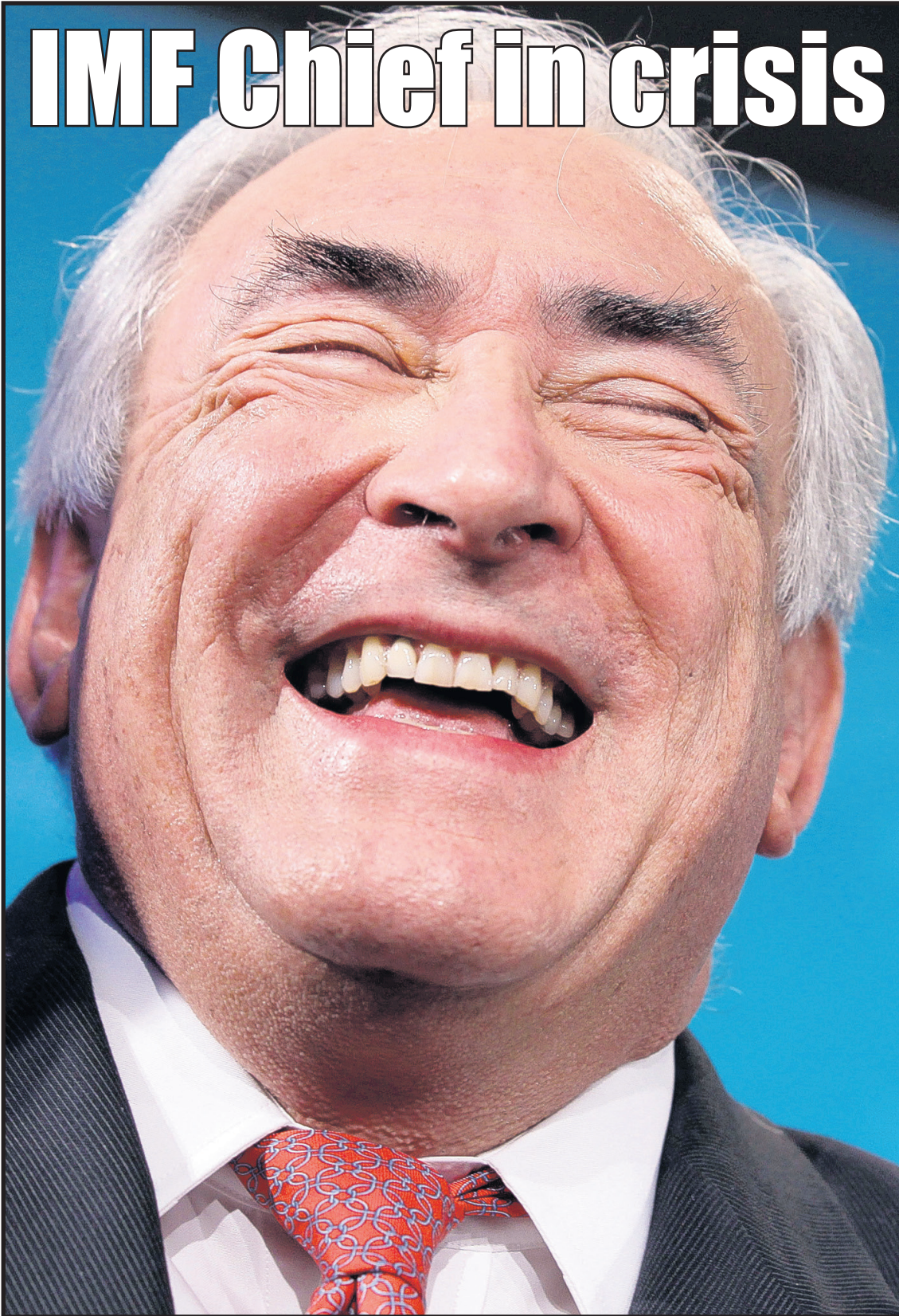
JERUSALEM – Israel's borders erupted in deadly clashes on Sunday as thousands of Palestinians – marching from Syria, Lebanon, Gaza and the West Bank – confronted Israeli troops to mark the anniversary of Israel's creation. More than a dozen people were reported killed and scores injured in the unprecedented wave of coordinated protests. At the Lebanese border Israeli troops shot at hundreds of Palestinians trying to cross, killing 10 protesters and wounding more than 100, the Lebanese military said.

In the Golan Heights, about 100 Palestinians living in Syria breached a border fence and crowded into the village of Majdal Shams, waving Palestinian flags. Troops fired on the crowd, killing four of them.

Every year in mid-May many Palestinians mark what they call Nakba, or the catastrophe, the anniversary of Israel's declaration of independence in 1948 and the start of a war in which hundreds of thousands of Palestinians lost their homes through expulsion and flight.

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IMF Chief in crisis



International Monetary Fund Managing Director Dominique Strauss-Kahn attends the IMF/World Bank spring meetings in Washington. Strauss-Kahn, 62, seen as the strongest potential challenger to French President Nicolas Sarkozy in 2012 presidential elections, was pulled off a plane bound for Paris at New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport Saturday May 14, 2011, and subsequently arrested in connection with the violent sexual assault of a New York hotel maid. Political rivals expressed shock at his arrest.

A. BAKER & S. ERLANGER

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NEW YORK – The managing director of the International

Monetary Fund, Dominique Strauss-Kahn, was taken off an Air France plane at Kennedy International Airport just minutes before it was to take

off for Paris on Saturday and arrested in connection with the sexual attack of a maid at a Midtown Manhattan hotel, the authorities said.

Continued on Next Page

THE RIFT

D. SANGER & E. SCHMITT

© 2011 New York Times

WASHINGTON – The United States and Pakistan are veering toward a deeper clash, with Pakistan's Parliament demanding a permanent halt to all drone strikes just as the most senior U.S. official since the killing of Osama bin Laden is to arrive with a stern message that the country has only months to show it is truly committed to rooting out al-Qaida and associated groups. The United States has increased drone strikes in Pakistan's tribal areas in the past 10 days in an effort to exploit the uncertainty and disarray among militant ranks caused by bin Laden's death on May 2. The latest airstrikes, on Friday, came as Pakistan's spy chief, Lt. Gen. Ahmed Shuja Pasha, in a rare appearance before the nation's Parliament, denounced the U.S. raid as a "sting operation."

Parliament then passed a resolution declaring that the drone strikes were a violation of sovereignty equivalent to the secret attack on bin Laden's compound in Abbottabad. The lawmakers warned that Pakistan could cut supply lines to American forces in Afghanistan if there were more such attacks. The resolution contained no condemnation of a splinter group of the Pakistani Taliban, who killed more than 80 Pakistani paramilitary cadets Friday.

Pakistan stepped up its condemnations of the United States as Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee and a longtime emissary to Pakistan in times of crisis, was preparing to land in Islamabad.

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IMF

Continued from Front Page
Strauss-Kahn, 62, who was widely expected to become the Socialist candidate for the French presidency, was apprehended by detectives of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey in the first class section of the jetliner, and immediately turned over to detectives from the Manhattan Special Victims squad, which covers the part of Manhattan where the hotel is, officials said.

The New York Police Department took Strauss-Kahn into custody, where he was "being questioned in connection with the sexual assault of a hotel chambermaid earlier this afternoon," Deputy Commissioner Paul J. Browne, the department's chief spokesman, said Saturday night. "He is being arrested for a criminal sex act, attempted rape and unlawful imprisonment."

A spokeswoman for the office of the Manhattan district attorney said prosecutors were investigating the matter and



Benjamin Brafman, an attorney for Dominique Strauss-Kahn, enters criminal court in New York, Sunday, May 15, 2011. The leader of the International Monetary Fund and a possible candidate for president of France was arrested Saturday in the violent sexual assault of a hotel maid after being yanked from an airplane moments before it was to depart for Paris, police said.

(AP Photo/Seth Wenig)

were expected to bring formal criminal charges against Mr. Strauss-Kahn by early Sunday.

Reached by telephone, Benjamin Brafman, a lawyer,

said he would be representing Strauss-Kahn with William Taylor, a lawyer in Washington.

"We have not yet been able to meet with our client and

we may have more to say tomorrow," said Brafman, who said he had been contacted late Saturday. He said Strauss-Kahn was being housed at the Police Department's Special

Victims Unit. Strauss-Kahn, a former French finance minister, had been expected to declare his candidacy soon after three and a half years as the leader of the fund, which is based in Washington, where he was considered by many to have done a good job in a period of intense global economic strain, when the bank itself had become vital to the smooth running of the world and the European economy.

His apprehension came about 4:40 p.m., when two Port Authority detectives suddenly boarded Air France Flight 23, as the plane idled on the tarmac, said John P.L. Kelly, a spokesman for the agency.

"It was 10 minutes before its scheduled departure," Kelly said. "They were just about to close the doors."

Kelly said Strauss-Kahn was traveling alone and was not handcuffed during the apprehension.

"He complied with the detectives' directions," Kelly said. □



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U.S. Beware: Geithner paints grim picture

By Allison Sherry,
 © The New York Times

The Denver Post WASHINGTON – If Congress fails to raise the nation's debt ceiling, it would spark "catastrophic and far-reaching damage" to the economy, with the federal government likely defaulting on its current obligations, according to U.S. Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner.

That could affect everything from the housing market to people's 401(k) accounts to credit card interest rates, he said.

Geithner issued the warning in a letter sent to Sen. Michael Bennet on Saturday outlining what would likely happen if the \$14.29 trillion ceiling was not raised this summer.

"A default would call into question, for the first time, the full faith and credit of the United States government," Geithner said in the letter obtained by The

Denver Post.

"The fact that the United States would not have enough money to meet all of its obligations would have serious circumstances."

The country was set to hit the debt limit – set by Congress in 2010 – on Monday. But Geithner said this month that he took "extraordinary measures" to extend that date to the beginning of August so Congress would have the summer to craft and pass a measure. Geithner's letter to Bennet on Saturday is the latest ominous message that the Treasury Department has put out this spring surrounding the debt ceiling. He was responding to a letter Bennet sent March 16 asking for a worst-case scenario if Congress failed to act.

Bennet, a Democrat, is among a cluster of senators working on crafting legislation that would pare \$4 trillion over 10 to 12 years from the nation's debt by cutting federal government programs and getting rid

of some tax write-offs.

This legislation could be paired with a debt ceiling vote this summer to make it more palatable to fiscal conservatives who find it difficult politically to vote yes on increasing the debt.

"As this letter states, playing politics with the debt limit would rattle the capital markets, blow an even bigger hole in our deficit and would likely throw our economy into another deep recession," Bennet said Saturday. "That is unacceptable, especially since Congress has the power to prevent it." □

Bull sharks back off Florida

By Terry Tomalin,
 © 2011 St. Petersburg Times

Up north, April showers bring May flowers. But here in the Sunshine State, the fifth month of the year marks the return of bull sharks.

These fearsome predators, named for their large heads and unpleasant disposition, are the undisputed heavy-weight champions of Florida waters. While they may not be responsible for the most attacks overall on humans, bull sharks are the culprits in most fatal encounters with swimmers.

Here, there, everywhere
 Many consider the bull to be the most dangerous shark in the world. This species can live for long periods in fresh-water and has been found more than 2,000 miles up the Amazon, and in landlocked bodies of water, such as Lake Nicaragua.

Bulls like shallow water and have been implicated in number of unprovoked attacks, including several in the Tampa



A bull shark swims off the coast of Florida.

Bay area. A 300-pound bull shark swimming across a shallow grass flat is enough to unnerve even veteran sport fishermen.

The real Jaws

A bull shark may have been responsible for attacks that occurred on the New Jersey coast in the summer of 1916, when four people died over 12 days. Three of those fatal attacks occurred in a shallow tidal river called Matawan

Creek, more than 10 miles from the open ocean. Author Peter Benchley later based his bestselling novel Jaws on the infamous summer.

Tampa Bay bulls

Bulls and several other species of sharks use Tampa Bay as a major nursery area during the spring and summer months. It is not uncommon for fishermen to catch, or snag, large bull sharks full of pups during May. □

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Don Lemon of CNN knows risk of coming out as gay

BILL CARTER

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Don Lemon, the weekend prime-time anchor for CNN, was on the air on Sunday night this month when the news broke that President Barack Obama would address the nation at the unusual hour of 10:30 p.m.

By the time the news network was confirming the reports of the death of Osama bin Laden, however, Lemon had been replaced by CNN's chief anchor, Wolf Blitzer.

"I kind of got big-footed," Lemon said, with a knowing laugh. Now 45, though he looks much younger, Lemon understands the television news business from long experience, gathered through jobs at such local stations as WCAU in Philadelphia, WMAQ in Chicago and WNYW in New York.

So he has no illusions about what he is getting himself into with the book he has written about his career — and life. In "Transparent," Lemon has a lot to say about reporting for television and about journalism in general. But he knows enough about news to recognize what will get this book noticed.

"People are going to say: 'Oh, he was molested as a kid, and now he is coming out.' I get it," he said.

Few national television news



CNN's Don Lemon

anchors or hosts have publicly acknowledged being gay. Rachel Maddow is perhaps the best known. Her MSNBC colleague, Thomas Roberts, has also come out as gay.

Lemon has not made a secret of his sexual orientation in his work life; many of his CNN co-workers and managers have long been aware that he is gay. But he still acknowledged that going public in his book carries certain risks.

"I'm scared," he said in a telephone interview. "I'm talking about something that people might shun me for, ostracize me for." Even beyond whatever effect his revelation might have on his television career, Lemon said he recognized this step carried special risk for him as a black man.

"It's quite different for an African-American male," he said. □

Troy Polamalu gets his college degree

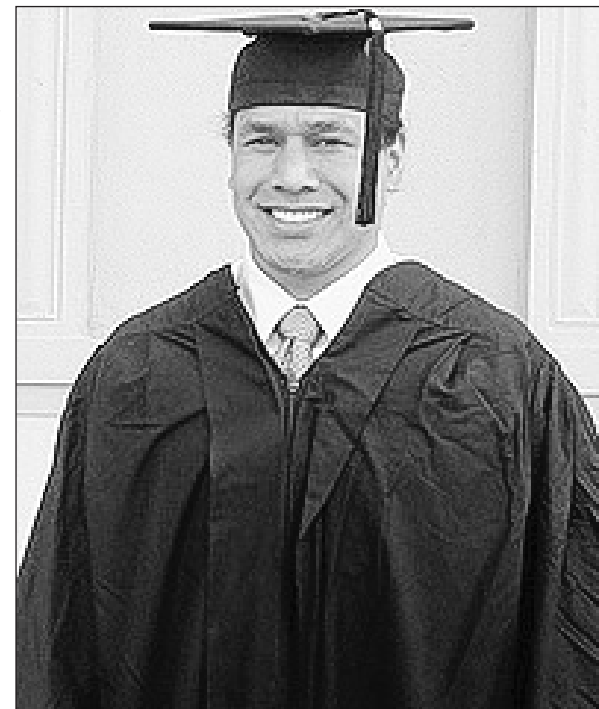
Different NFL players are dealing with the lockout in different ways. While many are taking to different fields to get workouts in, a few are taking the first real offseasons they've had in decades to get a little finishing work done on their personal lives. Pittsburgh Steelers All-World safety Troy Polamalu is one of them; Polamalu returned to his alma mater of USC and completed his degree in history in time to take part in a ceremony with over 1,000 master's and undergraduate students on Friday. Polamalu was drafted in 2003 after his senior season, but didn't have time to complete his degree before. The 30-year-old Polamalu posted his thoughts about the event on his website, www.troy43.com:

I'm thrilled to announce that on this cool, sunny Friday morning I donned a cap and gown, walked across the stage in the beautiful Alumni Park at University of Southern California, and was handed my diploma. I'm officially a USC graduate! While I feel excited and fulfilled, that's not really what I want to focus on in this message — I want to talk about the reason behind my decision to go back and finish what I started.

The majority of top picks in the NFL get drafted before they complete their college education. I truly love football and it's such an immense blessing and privilege as an athlete to be given the rare opportunity to use those talents at the highest professional level, but it's certainly not a replacement for an education. So I decided to finish what I started and walked that stage today not only because it was very important to me personally, but because

I want to emphasize the importance of education, and that nothing should supersede it. Polamalu is also sponsoring a Student of the Year program, which those interested in forwarding nominations can do so by following the directions on his website and sending nominations in by Tuesday, May 17.

On a personal note, I got to talk with Polamalu for a few minutes last year at the Nike 7-on-7 football camp in Portland, Oregon, and it's



Troy Polamalu

clear that he's one of the good guys. You'd have to go quite a while before you'd find a more centered and together individual in the NFL, and this is just another example of how he gets things done, and why he's been so successful — on the field and off. □

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Gingrich calls GOP's Medicare plan too radical



In this image released Sunday, May 15, 2011, by NBC News former House Speaker Newt Gingrich is interviewed on NBC's "Meet the Press" in Washington Sunday. Gingrich said he is very serious about seeking the U.S. presidency, but laughed off any suggestion that he could end up with the Republican Party's vice presidential nomination next year.

(AP Photo/NBC News, William B. Plowman)

By R. HERNANDEZ,
© 2011 New York Times
WASHINGTON – Days after formally announcing his candidacy for the 2012 Republican presidential nomination, Newt Gingrich on Sunday sharply criticized a plan by House Republicans that would drastically overhaul Medicare, the federal health care program for retirees. Gingrich, the former speaker of the House who led a conservative resurgence in the 1990s, said the Republican Medicare plan was "too big a jump" for Americans and compared it to the health care overhaul championed by President Barack Obama. "I'm against Obamacare, which is imposing radical change, and I would be against a conservative imposing radical change," Gingrich said on the NBC program "Meet the Press."

"I don't think right-wing social engineering is any more desirable than left-wing social

engineering," he said. "I don't think imposing radical change from the right or the left is a very good way for a free society to operate." The Republican plan calls for the most extensive overhaul of the Medicare program since it was created. It would end direct payment for medical care and would instead subsidize health coverage for older Americans.

While House Republicans have portrayed the plan as a way to address the nation's long-term financial problems, Democrats and their allies have sought to seize on public concerns over it, arguing that the changes would hurt the elderly, an influential voting group.

After facing waves of protests in public meetings after introducing the Medicare proposal in early April, House Republicans have begun signaling that

they are prepared to shelve it, at least for now. In leveling criticism at the Republican Medicare proposal, Gingrich appeared to be acknowledging the political difficulties and risk of abruptly changing a highly popular entitlement

program. "I think we need a national conversation to get to a better Medicare solution for seniors," Gingrich said, suggesting that any Medicare overhaul would have to include a system in which beneficiaries voluntarily opt out of

the program. Also on Sunday, Rep. Paul D. Ryan of Wisconsin, chairman of the House Budget Committee and author of the Medicare proposal, defended the plan during an appearance on the CNN program "State of the Union." □

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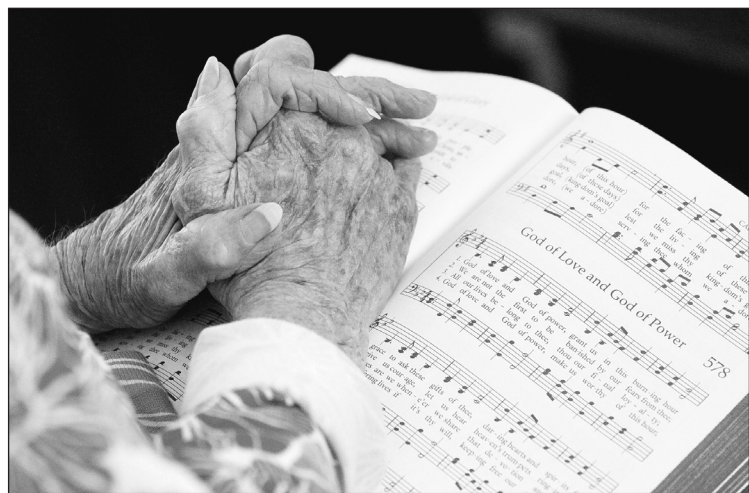
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As water creeps closer, residents warned: Get out!



Redwood United Methodist member Arveta Avant, folds her hands in prayer before singing at Sunday services May 15, 2011 in Redwood, Miss. Several of the small church's members were forced from their homes because of flooding from the Mississippi river.

(AP Photo/Rogelio V. Solis)

By M. KUNZELMAN, Associated Press
KROTZ SPRINGS, Louisiana (AP) — Authorities warned people Sunday to get out as Mississippi River water gushing from a floodgate for the first time in four decades crept ever closer to communities in Louisiana's Cajun country, slowly filling a river basin like a giant bathtub. Most residents heeded the warnings and headed for higher ground, even in places where there hasn't been so much as a trickle, hopeful that the flooding engineered to protect New Orleans and Baton Rouge would be merciful to their way of life. Days ago, many of the towns known for their Cajun culture and drawling dialect fluttered with activity as people filled sandbags and cleared out belongings. By Sunday, some areas were virtually empty as the water from the Mississippi River, swollen by snowmelt and heavy rains, slowly rolled across the Atchafalaya River basin. It first started to

come, in small amounts, into people's yards in Melville on Sunday. But it still had yet to move farther downstream. About 25,000 people and 11,000 structures could be affected by the oncoming water. The floodwaters could reach depths of 20 feet (six meters) in the coming weeks, though levels were nowhere close to that yet. The spillway's opening diverted water from heavily populated New Orleans and Baton Rouge — along with chemical plants and oil refineries along the Mississippi's lower reaches — easing pressure on the levees there in the hope of avoiding potentially catastrophic floods. About 11 miles (18 kilometers) north of Krotz Springs in the town of Melville, parts of the town not protected by levees were under a mandatory evacuation order. Glenda Maddox's husband had temporarily reopened the gas station he closed in December so people could fuel up before they leave.

"Nobody knows what's going to happen," she said. "We don't know if the levee is going to hold up."

The station's shelves were mostly barren, save for a few soft drinks and bottles of motor oil. Only cash was accepted — no credit cards.

In Butte LaRose, some 50 miles (80 kilometers) downstream from where the Morganza spillway was opened, no water was expected until at least later Sunday. Chalmers Wheat, 54, was among the few left — and even he was headed for his

father's home in Baton Rouge outside the flood zone. He and his brother were making a few final preparations to protect his home with plastic lining and sandbags. "It's almost like a ghost town," said Wheat, who was getting some help from his twin brother, Chandler. Sandbags were still available in the center of town, but there were few takers Sunday. Krotz Springs is roughly 30 miles (50 kilometers) closer to the floodgates, and sheriff's deputies ordered people to evacuate Sunday morning even though the water hadn't yet arrived. It will be at least a week before

the Mississippi River crest arrives at the Morganza spillway, where officials opened two massive gates on Saturday and another two Sunday. There are 125 in all. The Mississippi has broken river-level records that had held since the 1920s in some places. The Army Corps of Engineers has taken drastic steps to prevent flooding. Engineers blew up a levee in Missouri — inundating an estimated 200 square miles (520 square kilometers) of farmland and damaging or destroying about 100 homes — to take the pressure off floodwalls protecting the town of Cairo, Illinois, population 2,800. □

NY's Viscardi school struggles to redeem itself

MICHAEL WINERIP
© 2011 New York Times

ALBERTSON, N.Y. — Kathleen Cervasio's daughter, Gina, who is 12, has cerebral palsy, cannot speak and is a quadriplegic. Without a doubt, Cervasio said, the best thing that ever happened to Gina was getting into the Henry Viscardi School, one of 11 state-supported public schools for the severely disabled. Cervasio, a professor of nursing, said the education and rehabilitation programs were exceptional, offering services her family could never otherwise afford. Indeed, per pupil cost at Henry Viscardi is about \$75,000 — about five times the cost of educating a typical child — covered almost entirely by taxpayers. "I am so grateful," Cervasio said. "Gina has a great social worker who understands her and can calm her like no one else." The orthotic center, run by physical therapists, fixes Gina's wheelchair when it breaks down or needs adjustment as she grows. "The swimming pool is her favorite," Cervasio added. "It's the only time she can relax her muscles, float — she can even stand up with help." But the school's image went from impressive to disreputable last month. An audit from the state comptroller's office revealed that about \$835,000 was misused in 2008 and 2009,

much of it going toward the \$1.25 million in salary and benefits paid to Edmund L. Cortez, the chief executive officer, during that time. It gets worse: The state demanded the money be returned. A few weeks later, on May 1, facing a budget shortfall — partly because of the disallowed salary expenditures — the school announced nine staff members would be laid off or have their hours cut. The social worker Gina loves, along with a physical therapist and a lifeguard, are to be let go. The orthotic center and the pool at the school will be closed. Parents are angry. "I can't believe anyone would sign off on that kind of salary," Cervasio said. "They were using our children to get rich." Six parents and two former employees interviewed said when they tried to complain as recently as last week, they were blocked from attending school board meetings. Wanda O'Brien, a social worker who made \$58,000 a year and was laid off in 2009, said people feared Cortez. "If someone wrote the board a letter of complaint about him, the board would turn it over to him," she explained. "These children are the most vulnerable of the vulnerable, and they're paying for what this man took." □

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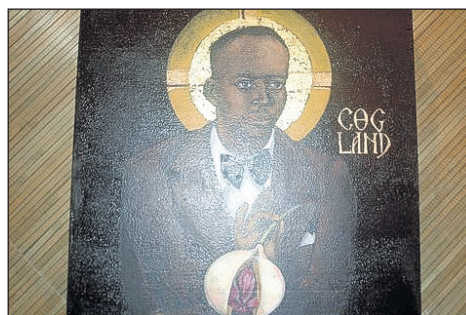
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Nigel Matthew opens first solo expo at Westin Art Gallery

"Roots, Religion and Reptiles" launched



PALM BEACH - Local artist and former art teacher, Nigel Matthew opened his first solo exhibition on Saturday night to a packed Westin Art Gal-

lery full of his family, friends and fans.

Using the religious symbolism he grew up with in the heavily Roman Catholic So-

ciety, he has created modern "iconic" art works which embraces the same devotion and richness as traditional Greek Orthodox icons.

His religion's elaborate amount of symbolism and rituals played a great role in his childhood fantasy, and part of this exhibit are these fantasies on canvas. He was also intrigued by a recent discovery of an old family photo album, and challenged himself to allow his new discovery to be the source of inspiration for his first solo expo.

Beautiful photographs of his parents, grandparents and other relatives, being the Roots

of his Life, left their imprints on his retina, but it was a great challenge to create works of art that could reflect not only his ethnic background, but also his skills as an artist. So he chose to make use of the old art form of painting religious portraits on wooden panels, in a contemporary style. Once he got on his creative roller-coaster as Nigel calls it, everything started to fall into place.

He took the liberty of playing with shapes, colors and textures coming from his fervent passion for shells and lizards, as a replacement for so many religious symbols. Reptiles,

such as lizards and iguanas, the most common fauna around us here in Aruba, boldly shows off their undeniable beauty on his canvasses.

These creatures often come to visit the artist in his studio. Nigel hopes that, by means of these visual images, to either sympathize or criticize the never-ending theme of Religion.

The Westin Art Gallery is located in the upper lobby of the Westin Resort in Palm Beach. The gallery welcomes everybody to come in and view the art at any time. Roots, Religion and Reptiles will be on view until the middle of June. □



U.S. Dairy Export Council in collaboration with the U.S. Meat Export Federation

F&B professionals partake in seminar



PALM BEACH – While sixty people were expected more than one-hundred showed for an evening of fellowship, tastes and trends at the Westin Resort & Casino ballroom. Elizabeth Wunderlick, the Caribbean Manager for U.S. Meat, a repeat guest on the island and a very popular lady among local chefs, invited some of her friends, from Dairy, Pork and Wine organizations to come together and discuss the latest global evolution in food service, over award-winning cuisine. The evening was facilitated by Josue Merced-Reyes, an Island Hopping Gourmand and an authority on all aspects of Buen Vivir. The Westin's executive chef Matt Boland and his culinary brigade prepared a lovely menu of tastings reflecting the 12 global trends identified in Merced-Reyes' lecture, and guests hailing from all of Aruba's fine eateries had fun sharing the heaped family-style platters paired with exquisite wines, imported to the island by Arion Wine Company. Among trends defined by Merced-Reyes for 2011/12,



the return of pre-prohibition libations and signature retro-cocktails such as The Sidecar, and the ones named after icons of yesteryears such as Greta Garbo & Marlene Dietrich. Other trends include Low & Slow, cooking in low temperatures over long periods of time producing tasty dishes such as the American Lamb Shanks cooked Osso Buco style, meat falling off the bone, served that evening. The course was

Truffle Macaroni & Cheese, flavored with boutique cheeses such as Shullsburg Cheddar and Roth Kase Gruyere, lend a fresh twist to childhood favorites, and Mezzaluna Fontina Cheese Grits delivers the same effect of comfort, home-style cooking with fine dining flair. Apparently cheese is big on the list of trends as the menu embraced it with every course!

Talking about the Aging Trend at length, Merced-Reyes ex-



plained how improved dry aging is over wet aging, which is also reflected in the price, but one can taste the difference, as far as flavor, in beef and in rum, a fine aged rum, he suggested, is perfectly suited for sipping, in the same way cognac is. The trend of Artisanal Cheese, Artisanal Bread and Artisanal Wine was enthusiastically received, as restaurant patrons are tired of mass produced

Comfort foods are still a strong trend, he reiterates,

plained how improved dry aging is over wet aging, which is also reflected in the price, but one can taste the difference, as far as flavor, in beef and in rum, a fine aged rum, he suggested, is perfectly suited for sipping, in the same way cognac is.

The trend of Artisanal Cheese, Artisanal Bread and Artisanal Wine was enthusiastically received, as restaurant patrons are tired of mass produced



products and are willing to pay for superior quality. Not surprisingly Merced-Reyes advocated smaller portions as part of being a responsible consumer and having less-leftovers at the end of the meal. He discussed the slicing of mega sirloins in half, creating tasty medallions as a way of conserving resources and eliminating waste.

The trend of mixing and matching sauces from around the globe is strong. The meat tasting featured a Portobello Chocolate Red Wine sauce, and a Tamarind Tarragon Green Peppercorn sauce besides a Buttermilk Blue Cheese sauce, illustrating the



globe-trotting tendencies of the menu writer.

The Big Picture of Food, concludes Merced-Reyes, requires creativity and the desire to surprise and delight restaurant-goers, explore flavors and serve a sensory explosion, as exemplified by the deconstructed Tiramisu dessert which served light-as-a-feather Lady Fingers biscuits, strong espresso and BelGioioso mascarpone, for every guest to make up his own version of the Italian Pick-Me-Up Dessert, with as little or as much coffee and cream toppings.

All invitees expressed gratitude to the sponsors which made the exquisite evening possible including additional product donations from Buckhead Beef, Kansas Packing LLC and Silverado Vineyards. □



Ajax wins Holland's national soccer championship

Dutch soccer fans enjoy match at Café the Plaza



ORANJESTAD - Ajax has won the title of Dutch national soccer champion over FC Twente last Sunday. It was sizzling match, which showed the outsider team in one of its best matches in many years. Fast-paced and accurate in its passes, Ajax was by far the best team on the field. The

first half saw a goal by Siem de Jong (Ajax) - the second half was hardly a few minutes old when Theo Janssen (FC Twente) made an autogoal, resulting in a 2-0 score for Ajax; in the same minute, however, Danny Landzaat corrected Twente's mistake with a fantastic goal. De Jong's final



goal later in the match decided Ajax' victory (3-1) and made them Holland's national champion.

On Aruba the match was watched live at various caf  s and restaurants, among them Salt & Pepper, Bingo, Buster's and Caf   the Plaza, where a good group of twenty



fans had gathered to cheer for their team. They were disappointed at the end result, but filled with the good feeling of

having watched a great match. Photos show fans at Caf   the Plaza during the outstanding match. □

It pays to play at The Casino at the Radisson



PALM BEACH - The sound of ringing jackpots have become a common occurrence at The Casino at the Radisson Aruba Resort, Casino & Spa. In only two weeks, the Casino paid out almost \$30,000 in jackpot prize money!

The Saturday Slot Tournaments continued to give out great cash prizes, with Micheal Antonito winning 1st place and \$300, Secondino Avilla in 2nd place with \$200 and Roy Feliciano winning \$100 in one week, followed the next week by Rodman Yazaray 1st place with \$300,

leaving repeat winner Richard Raaz 2nd place with \$200 and Shayaira Hayer in 3rd place with \$100.

For The Casino's weekly Friday night drawings, lucky winners Fabian Thiel and Magda Tromp received an iPod Nano and iPod Touch, respectively. Reyna Maria Sanchez Tromp was the happy recipient of a certificate for Sunday Brunch for Two at Gilligan's Restaurant, while Filomena Tromp will soon be enjoying a Dinner for Two at the same restaurant. Both David Wever and Andres Loaiza

were equally thrilled when their names were called for a Dinner for Two at Laguna Restaurant.

Photos show the happy winners at The Casino at the Radisson. □



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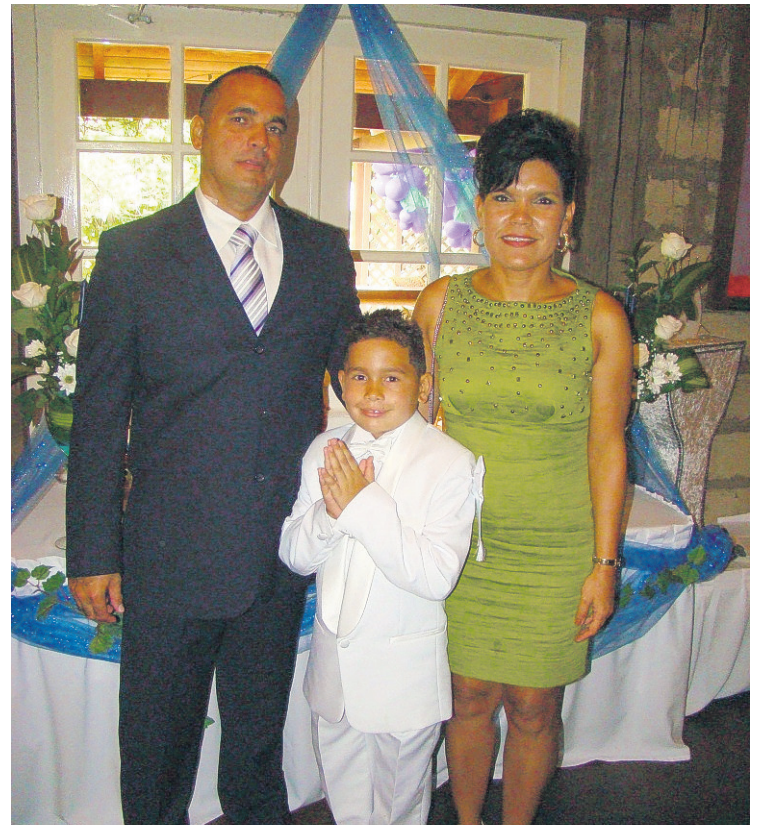
First Communion celebrations a success



PALM BEACH -- Dillan D.D. Maduro, surrounded by loving family members, mom Daisy, dad Erwin and brother Dwayn, celebrated his 1st



Holy Communion at Amazonia Churrascaria. The cute student of Colegio Pastor Kranwinkel, reports the impressive ceremony took place at the church of Paradera, where he participated in the mass service for the first time. The party over lunch on Saturday afternoon was beautifully organized and enjoyed delicious and plentiful food and great service which pleased every one of the multi-generational guests. □



Courtesy of the Casino at the Radisson

Win a Suzuki Swift GLX Sport



PALM BEACH – The Casino at the Radisson unveiled its second car, awarding slot machine and table game players with a chance to drive

away with a set of stylish new wheels, at the end of 10 weeks, on July 23rd. The first car was raffled off by the Casino at the Radisson

on April 24th, when a Suzuki SX4 was won by Araldo Milan Dumerigo.

Another car, this time a Suzuki Swift GLX Sport was revealed on Saturday, May 14, during Noche Mexicana.

The cute blue car parked on display at the casino boasts 4-doors, a 1.5 lt. engine, keyless entry, air conditioning and sport seats, among other great features.

The Suzuki Swift GLX Sport was revealed by Aruba's Broadcasting Queen Erin Croes, as the guest of honor with Casino Manager Michael Croes as her host.

The Noche Mexicana promotion featured free-flowing margaritas and Mexican snacks to live music by Mariachi Perla Di Aruba. One of the evening's most unforgettable moments delivered Erin Croes singing with Miguel v/d Linden, live. No wonder.

The broadcasting queen has a great voice.

All visitors that night were awarded with a Free Car Raffle Ticket per person, and you may obtain yours when playing the Casino's slot



machines and gaming tables. The Suzuki Swift GLX will be given away in just 10 weeks, on July 23rd, and every Friday until then a casino happening will award attractive prizes to some of those who deposit

their ticket in the designated drum.

The Casino at the Radisson is the only casino in town that treats its players to premium drinks, so drop in for a pleasant gaming experience. □

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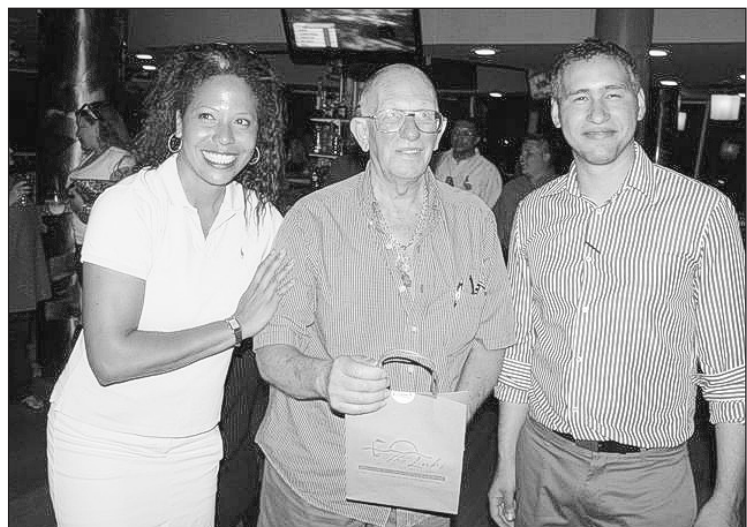


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Manager's outing recognizes La Cabana's champions



DIVI LINKS – An informal Golf & Karaoke outing landed the department heads and managers of La Cabana Beach & Racquet Club at Divi Links for an entertaining golf clinic. Having enjoyed the Donald Ross Feel Golf School, at The Links Golf Learning Center, the crew went on to put for a while and apply the lessons taught by Dr. FeelGolf, at the practice range. Exhausted from their golfing sessions and very thirty the managers retired to Mulligan's Golf Bar & Restaurant for refreshments and an award ceremony in which Tabitha Fecunda awarded three golfing

prizes in the name of Divi Links to General Manager Joe Najjar and two tied runner-ups, Willie and Jsmael. Assistant General Manager Jessica Franken was the emcee of the quarterly recognition ceremony in which three outstanding department heads were praised for their numerous contributions to the resort. Both Nilda Echobardo and Frank Sabago are many times award-winners, and famous for their creativity and ingenuity in the Housekeeping Department and in Environmental Stewardship, respectively, but this time



Cesar Tromp received the ultimate honor, as Manager of the First Quarter. With the resort under renovations, Cesar keeps the pace of ordering equipment up, on a timely basis, "We have never been short of anything, during renovations," says Najjar, "and all equipment showed up on time, thanks to Cesar's tremendous management of the ordering process." Pictured her, Cesar's award presented in his absence to a colleague, other award recipients and the golf clinic. The evening continued with fun Karaoke with Alberto Groeneveldt. □



Aloha Bridge Club Aruba

Results Thursday, 12 May 2011

A total of 7 pairs attended the morning bridge session at the Members Lounge of the Aruba Beach Club Resort.

The results 50% and higher are as follows:

- 1) Annette Ybeles / Joke Henriquez 61.25 %
- 2) Lorraine Wright / Addy Eilers 58.75 %
- Henk Berghuizen / Carola Pinxter 58.75 %
- 3) Edith Henriquez / Sheila Lampe 52.50 %

RESULTS FRIDAY, 13 MAY 2011

A total of 8 pairs joined the bridge session at the Frank Conway Room of Casa del Mar.

The results 50% and higher are as follows:

- 1) Addy Eilers / Willem Jacobusse 60.14 %
- 2) Ineke Jobse / Willy Flanegin 58.33 %
- 3) Kathy Yazaragay / Carmen Kruythoff 51.88 %
- Fred van der Leest / Chris Joosten 51.88 %

Aloha Bridge Club Aruba plays twice a week: on Thursday mornings at the Members Lounge of the Aruba Beach Club starting at 9.00 am and on Friday evenings at the Frank Conway Room of Casa del Mar, starting time: 7.30 pm. Playing fee for members: Afl. 6.50 p.p.; guest players: \$ 6.00 or Afl. 10.00 p.p. Signing up closes ten minutes before starting time. The club can also be of help in getting single players a bridge partner. Please call Addy Eilers, tel. 582-4953. □

HEALTH

Aruba TODAY

China gives press more freedom: for food safety

By ALEXA OLESEN,
Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — Toxic bean sprouts, filthy cooking oil, drug-tainted pork: The relentless headlines in Chinese media have churned up queasy

feelings for months about the dangers lurking in the nation's dinner bowls.

The stories are grim reading but show China's usually strict censors are allowing the press more latitude to help it



Chinese police promote awareness of economic crimes near confiscated counterfeit food products in Beijing, China, Sunday, May 15, 2011. The headlines are unrelenting: toxic bean sprouts, filthy oil, drug-tainted pork. For months, Chinese media have been churning out a queasy-making multitude of stories about the dangers lurking in the nation's dinner bowls.

(AP Photo/Ng Han Guan)

monitor a food industry long riddled with problems.

The central government has been cautiously encouraging a sudden burst in food safety muckraking. That's in contrast to before the new food safety campaign, when local officials would delay or quash reporting on food safety or the provincial government had to give permission for coverage of food scandals, said Peter Leedham, a China-based food testing executive.

"It was very tightly controlled. That seems to have gone now. There's much more openness," said Leedham, the managing director of Eurofins Technology Service in Suzhou.

Few think the looser controls on food reporting signal a broader reform of Chinese media, which remains strictly controlled by the ruling Communist Party. Blogging and publishing are also muzzled, and those who challenge the government risk being harassed or detained. Some, like

the writer and Nobel Peace Prize winner Liu Xiaobo, have been convicted of inciting to subvert state power for their dissident writings. Liu is currently serving an 11-year prison term.

"Is it a U.S.-style openness?" said Christopher Hickey, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's country director for China. "Clearly not, but I do think it's one of these areas where there is a limited amount of freedom, more than there was in the past."

Chang Ping, a former columnist fired from the gutsy Southern Metropolis Weekly for his critiques, said reporters have long had a freer hand on food troubles as long as they portray them as isolated rather, than systemic problems.

"The reports may look very free, but in fact they don't push anyone to really consider the root causes of what's going on," said Chang.

Still, the shift underscores official alarm over the scope of China's food safety problem

and a recognition that government inspectors alone aren't going to be able to tackle it.

Zhang Yong, the director of the executive office of the new Cabinet-level Food Safety Commission, recently praised the media's "important watchdog role" after being asked why journalists have frequently been able to find food safety problems before inspectors.

Many challenges lie in the way of cleaning up the rampant use of illegal additives and drugs, which are often churned out by makeshift chemical factories, making them particularly hard to trace. Too many agencies oversee food safety, penalties for violations are too light and local officials lack sufficient incentives to crack-down on businesses in their area that produce bad food.

The problems persist despite a crisis in 2008 when six babies died and 300,000 were sickened from drinking infant formula or other dairy tainted with the industrial chemical melamine. □

Zurich voters to keep 'suicide tourism' alive

By JOHN HEILPRIN,
Associated Press

ZURICH (AP) — Voters in Zurich have overwhelmingly rejected calls to ban assisted suicide or to outlaw the practice for nonresidents.

Zurich's cantonal voters by about a 4-to-1 margin Sunday defeated both measures that had been pushed by political and religious conservatives.

Out of more than 278,000 ballots cast, the initiative to ban assisted suicide was opposed by 85 percent of voters and the initiative to outlaw it for foreigners was turned down by 78 percent, according to Zurich authorities.

Assisted suicide is legal in Switzerland, and has been since 1941, provided the helper isn't a medical doctor and doesn't personally benefit from a patient's death. About 200 people a year commit suicide in Zurich.

"It's everybody's own decision. It must be allowed — they do it anyway," said Felix Gutjahr, a Zurich voter who opposed the ballot initiatives.

Other Zurich residents said they also believe it's a matter of personal freedom, though some expressed unease and concern that Zurich has become something of a tourist destination for hundreds of people, mainly other Europeans, and a few Americans, who each year visit because they want to end their lives.

Last year, the Swiss government rejected calls to ban assisted suicide groups but said it would propose new rules to restrict their work. Government officials have said they want to cut down on suicide tourism, and that a majority of the groups and local governments they consulted were in favor of drawing up stricter rules to govern assisted suicide groups.

The Federal Democratic Union and the Evangelical Party had sought the bans, one of which would have required at least one year's residency in the canton of Zurich before being able to make use of legal assisted suicide. But both right-wing and left-wing parties campaigned against that.

The Swiss group Dignitas helps people commit suicide legally. More than 1,000 foreigners gained assistance from the group last year, more than half of them from Germany.

Bernhard Sutter, vice president of EXIT, a Swiss group that assists people to commit suicide, called the outcome of the Zurich vote a strong affirmation that Swiss voters believe in "self-determination at the end of life."

He said it also sends "a clear signal" to the Swiss parliament that it should lower the legal hurdles for elderly clients seeking its help. □

Israel clashes with protesters on four borders



Palestinian demonstrators approach Israeli soldiers in Ramallah in the West Bank, on May 15, 2011. Israel's borders erupted in deadly clashes on Sunday as thousands of Palestinians, marching from Syria, Lebanon, Gaza and the West Bank, confronted Israeli troops to mark the anniversary of Israel's creation.

(Rina Castelnuevo/The New York Times).

Continued from Front Page

But this is the first year that Palestinian refugees in Syria and Lebanon tried to breach the Israeli military border in marches inspired by recent popular protests around the Arab world. Here too, word about the rallies was spread on social media sites. "The Palestinians are not less rebellious than other Arab peoples," said Ali Baraka, a Hamas representative in Lebanon. At day's end, as a tense calm returned to the country's borders, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel said the day's protests were aimed not at creating a Palestinian state alongside Israel but at destroying Israel. "The leaders of these violent demonstrations, their struggle is not over the 1967 borders but over the very existence of Israel which they describe as a catastrophe that must be resolved," he said in a televised statement. "It is important that we look with open eyes at the

reality and be aware of whom we are dealing with and what we are dealing with."

Officials and analysts have argued that with peace talks broken down and plans for a request of the United Nations to declare Palestinian statehood in September, violence could return to define this conflict, which has been relatively quiet for the past two years.

Saeb Erekat, chief Palestinian negotiator, said the protests reflected the urgency of political action.

"This just shows how much we need a solution to this problem," he said in an interview. "We cannot solve it with bullets. The Israelis believe that the older generation will die out and the younger one will forget. But this is political blindness."

A 16-year-old from Bethlehem, Amjad Abu Taha, who joined thousands in the West Bank city of Ramallah near the main military checkpoint to Israel, seemed to illustrate the point. □

Massacre in Guatemala leaves 27 people dead

By L. VILLAGRAN & S. PEREZ,

Associated Press

GUATEMALA CITY (AP)

— Assailants killed at least 27 people — decapitating most of the victims — on a ranch in a part of northern Guatemala plagued by drug cartels, national police said Sunday.

The massacre of the 25 men and two women took place early Sunday in the town of Caserio La Bomba in Peten province near the Mexico border, according to National Civil Police spokesman Donald Gonzalez.

It is one of the worst massacres since the end of Guatemala's 36-year civil war in 1996.

Gonzalez said police are investigating whether the attack is related to Saturday's killing in Peten of Haroldo Leon, the brother of alleged Guatemalan drug boss Juan Jose "Juancho" Leon.

"Juancho" Leon was killed in 2008 in an ambush that Guatemalan authorities blame on

Mexico's Zetas drug cartel, which has increasingly wrested control of the drug trade beyond Mexico, at times by eliminating their competition. Ten others were killed in the 2008 attack.

Guatemalan authorities said police and soldiers were searching the area on Sunday for the unidentified attackers and didn't offer a motive for the attack.

"This is a terrible event that we must clarify and investigate regardless of the consequences, whoever is the author of this massacre," said Guatemala Prosecutor General Claudia Paz y Paz. Guatemala has become a major shipment point for drugs heading north to the United States.

In February, the government lifted a two-month-long state of siege that it had declared in Alta Verapaz province, which neighbors Peten province, during which security forces were sent to quell drug-related violence. □



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Rift deepens between U.S. and Pakistan over bin Laden

Continued from Front Page

He was arriving with a list of actions – and some offers from Washington to ease tensions – that he finalized in a meeting on Thursday with President Barack Obama's national security adviser, Thomas E. Donilon, and other top U.S. security officials.

A senior administration official said Saturday that the United States would try to use the threat of congressional cuts to the \$3 billion in annual American aid to Pakistan as leverage. Any evidence of Pakistani complicity in sheltering bin Laden that is contained in the hundreds of computer flash drives and documents recovered in the commando raid on bin Laden's compound could also be used, the official said. So far, no such evidence has been found.

"In the Congress, this is a make or break moment" for



Supporters of Pakistani religious group Jamaat-ud-Dawa, rally to condemn the United States for the killing of al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden, Sunday, May 15, 2011 in Lahore, Pakistan. Party's chief Hafiz Saeed called bin Laden a martyr and demanded the Pakistani government break ties with the United States.

(AP Photo/K.M.Chaudary)

aid to Pakistan, Kerry said in an interview just before he left for Afghanistan and Pakistan. Kerry said he would tell Pakistan that there needed to be "a real demonstration of commitment" to fighting terror groups in the next few months. But he will also reassure Pakistani officials that they will be a central part of any political

accord with the Taliban in Afghanistan, to ease their fears that India will take over large areas of Afghanistan as the United States pulls out.

The Obama administration has said nothing about the Pakistani government's criticisms in the hope that they are designed to alleviate the public's anger and the Pakistani

military's embarrassment that American forces attacked the bin Laden compound without being detected by Pakistani warning systems. Donilon and other senior administration officials declined to be interviewed about the administration's strategy.

The American reticence stems in part from the reality that such ultimatums have been sent before – most recently after the arrest earlier this year of Raymond Davis, a Central

Intelligence Agency contractor who shot two Pakistanis during what he said was a robbery. Pakistan has repeatedly called the administration's bluff and revealed the threats as hollow. The United States relies heavily on transit routes in Pakistan to supply American troops in Afghanistan, and any move to cut off aid would probably prompt Pakistan to shut the supply routes, as it has done during previous disputes. □

Ex-Afghan spy chief:

I knew where bin Laden was

WASHINGTON (AP) — Afghanistan's former intelligence chief says he knew Osama bin Laden was hiding in Pakistan four years ago, but Pakistan's leaders rejected his claims.

In an interview broadcast Sunday on CBS' "60 Minutes," Amrullah Saleh says Afghan intelligence thought bin Laden was in the Pakistani city of Mansehra — about 12 miles (19 kilometers) away from Abbottabad, where the

terrorist leader was eventually found and killed by U.S. Navy SEALs.

Saleh has become a prominent critic of Afghan President Hamid Karzai's efforts to start peace talks with the Taliban. He says Pakistan should be recognized by the United States as "a hostile country." He told CBS: "They take your money. They do not co-operate. They created the Taliban. They are number one in nuclear proliferation." □

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Iraq Notebook: GIs are losing their 'Joe'

By LARA JAKES,

Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — No more lattes? War is hell.

As U.S. troops prepare to leave Iraq, the few perks of living on military bases are among the first casualties of the withdrawal. Fast food restaurants, boutique coffee shops, activity nights and other comforts of home that have helped soldiers get through the years will be shuttered this summer.

Their closing has met with some muted grumbling from soldiers, and highlights the fine line the military has struggled to walk — making life as pleasant as possible for troops in grim places without coddling them.

Not all commanders thought much of the perks, anyway. Iraq, after all, is still a war zone — even if many of the estimated 46,000 troops who remain are “fobbits.” That is, they almost

never leave the Forward Operating Bases where they live, or see anything of Iraq and its people, since combat missions ended last September.

Heading into the Green Beans coffee shop at Camp Victory outside Baghdad, Army Lt. Randy Williams said it's a needed respite from his high-stress job as a health information systems officer.

“I'm here often,” said Williams, 46, of Lakeland, Florida, who was collecting his evening espresso. “The environment, the vibe — it's low-key and calm. You feel you can exhale.”

Private contractors for years have been cashing in on



Protesters chant anti-Iraqi government slogans while waving national flags during a protest at Tahrir Square in Baghdad, Iraq, Friday, May 13, 2011. Protesters have gathered in downtown Baghdad, demanding better government services and more jobs. The banner in Arabic reads, “God is with you Iraq.”

(AP Photo/Khalid Mohammed)

soldiers in Iraq by serving them a slice of home from Pizza Hut and Burger King kiosks parked on bases. Cinnabon and Green Beans, which is the soldier's equivalent of Starbucks, serve the best joe on post. “You just need a break every once in a while, so it's good to have Subway or coffee when you're missing being back home,” said Army Spc. Nicole Meixner, 33, from Detroit, who was recently leaving the Subway at Camp Victory with a sandwich bag in her hand. “But you have to expect change here in Iraq. You have to roll with the flow.”

The perks aren't just food and drink. At Camp Victory, there's a speedway where troops and contrac-

tors can race their remote-controlled cars. And at the massive Balad airfield north of the capital, a movie theater this week was showing the blockbuster “Thor” to residents.

But as the Dec. 31 drawdown deadline nears, the post exchange retail shops have stopped restocking the newest iPods and Wiis. The PX in Basra in southern Iraq has even limited how many bottles of shampoo and body lotion each customer can buy in the ebbing war, which economists estimate has cost U.S. taxpayers nearly \$12 billion monthly since 2003. When he took command of the estimated 10,000 troops in Baghdad late last year, Maj. Gen. Bernard Champoux decided the looming military withdrawal gave him the perfect excuse to shut down some of the services he feared would make his soldiers soft.

“Green Beans coffee. Salsa night. Baghdad speedway. Are you kidding me?” Champoux said in an interview. “There is no longer salsa night. Symbolically, I said that's the first thing to go.”

If closing the venues rubs people the wrong way, “then we're not doing a good job of keeping them busy,” Champoux said. “We're at a point where we are not going to be able to support some of the quality-of-life stuff that we have right now. ... That self-denial, the ‘taking a blue collar as opposed to a blue blazer’ kind of approach to this is going to be important.” □

HIV SOS



CHARLES M. BLOW
© 2011 New York Times

Treatment as prevention. That's the way scientists describe a striking and incredibly encouraging new finding of a large clinical trial released on Thursday that found that HIV-infected people who took antiretroviral drugs were 96 percent less likely to pass on the disease than those who didn't.

This is an extraordinary finding, coming in the year of the 30th anniversary of the AIDS epidemic in America.

This now shines a harsh light on the cruelty-creep and passion-drift by federal and state governments whose lack of financing and fealty in the fight against AIDS has had the effect of either starving or restricting support, services and prevention efforts for people with HIV and those at risk of contracting it.

In light of this week's news, perhaps no program becomes more important or in more urgent need of reconsideration than the nation's AIDS Drug Assistance Programs, or ADAPs, for low-income patients. ADAPs are co-funded by federal and state governments and now find themselves in a bit of a crisis.

On the federal level, Washington's contributions haven't kept pace with the scope of the problem. In 2000, 68 percent of ADAP budgets came from federal money. Last year, that had dropped to 45 percent. And the state-level lawmakers are making uncon-

scionable choices. According to data from the ADAP Advocacy Association: As of last week, the number of people on ADAP waiting lists had risen to 7,873; between April 2009 and April 2011, 14 states reduced the number and types of drugs they would pay for; and a number of other states have or are considering stiffening financial eligibility requirements and capping enrollment or removing some people already enrolled, among other things.

This is particularly problematic since the National ADAP Monitoring Project's annual report, released in March, showed that those most dependent on the program are some of society's most vulnerable. About a third of all people diagnosed with AIDS are enrolled in ADAPs, three-quarters of them had incomes of less than 200 percent of the national poverty level, 61 percent were uninsured and 55 percent were black or Hispanic.

But as the recession put more patients in need, federal and state aid didn't keep track. From 2007 to 2010, the number of people using ADAP jumped by a third, but federal and state funds specifically appropriated for it grew by just 3 percent and 18 percent, respectively.

Not only is it morally reprehensible to restrict or deny life-saving drugs to those who need them (talk about death panels), it is a colossal miscalculation of public health policy, not to mention being fiscally irresponsible.

The new findings should help change a paradigm that's badly in need of changing. Treatment benefits the healthy as well as the sick. It not only prolongs and improves the lives of those who are HIV-positive, but it's also a prophylactic for those who aren't. Everyone wins.

It's time to expand ADAP, not diminish it. □



What Holbrooke knew



By NICHOLAS D. KRISTOF

© 2011 New York Times

When he was alive, Ambassador Richard Holbrooke was effectively gagged, unable to comment on what he saw as missteps of the Obama administration that he served. But as we face a crisis in Pakistan after the killing of Osama bin Laden, it's worth listening to Holbrooke's counsel — from beyond the grave.

As one of America's finest strategic thinkers and special envoy to the Af-Pak region, Holbrooke represented the administration — but also chafed at aspects of the White House approach. In particular, he winced at the overreliance on military force, for it reminded him of Vietnam.

"There are structural similarities between Afghanistan and Vietnam," he noted, in scattered reflections now in the hands of his widow, Kati Marton.

"He thought that this could become Obama's Vietnam," Marton recalled. "Some of the conversations in the Situation Room reminded him of conversations in the Johnson White House. When he raised that, Obama didn't want to hear it."

Because he was fiercely loyal to his friend Hillary Clinton, the secretary of state, Holbrooke bit his lip and kept quiet in public. But he died in December, and Marton and some of his friends (me included) believe it's time to lift the cone of silence and share his private views. At this time, with Pakistan relations in a crisis and Afghanistan under review, our country could use a dose of his wisdom.

Holbrooke opposed the military "surge" in Afghanistan and would see the demise of bin Laden as an opportunity to go into diplomatic overdrive. He believed strongly that the only way out of the mess in Afghanistan was a peace deal with the Taliban, and his team was secretly engaged in outreach to figures linked to the Taliban, Marton says.

"Reconciliation — that was what he was working toward in Afghanistan, and building up the civilian and political side that had been swamped by the military," Marton recalled. "The whole policy was off-kilter, way too militarized. Richard never thought that this war could be won on the

battlefield."

His aim, she says, was something like the Balkan peace agreement he negotiated at a military base in Dayton, Ohio. The process would be led by the United States but include all the regional players, including Pakistan and Iran.

"He was dreaming of a Dayton-like setting somewhere, isolated, no media, no Washington bureaucracy," Marton said. "He was a long way from that, but he was dreaming of that."

Vali Nasr, a member of Holbrooke's team at the State Department, puts it this way: "He understood from his experience that every conflict has to end at the negotiating table." Nasr says that Holbrooke's aim for Afghanistan was "not cut-and-run, but a viable, lasting solution" to end the civil war there. If Holbrooke were still alive, Nasr says, he would be shuttling frantically between Islamabad and Kabul, trying to take advantage of bin Laden's killing to lay the groundwork for a peace process.

To do that, though, we have to put diplomacy and development — and not 100,000 troops, costing \$10 billion a month — at the heart of our Afghan policy. Holbrooke was bemused that he would arrive at a meeting in a taxi, while Gen. David Petraeus would arrive escorted by what seemed a battalion of aides. □

Durant leads Thunder into West finals

Oklahoma City Thunder forward Kevin Durant reacts after scoring against the Memphis Grizzlies in the third quarter of Game 7 of a second-round NBA basketball playoff series in Oklahoma City, Sunday, May 15, 2011.

Associated Press
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SPORTS Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email: news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel: 582-7800 Monday, May 16, 2011

Kenseth pulls away late, wins at Dover



Matt Kenseth poses for photographers after winning the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series auto race at Dover International Speedway on Sunday, May 15, 2011, in Dover, Del.

Associated Press

By DAN GELSTON
AP Sports Writer

DOVER, Del. — Matt Kenseth's first idea was to skip pit road, take a chance he could start first on a restart and hang on for a victory.

Then, he had another thought. Why not just take two tires on pit road instead of four?

With his No. 17 Ford on the jack, Kenseth called the audible and told crew chief Jimmy Fennig he wanted two. "Two tires! Two tires!" Fennig said.

His crew made the switch before they dropped the car and that was the perfect strategy Kenseth needed to win the Sprint Cup race at Dover International Speedway on Sunday.

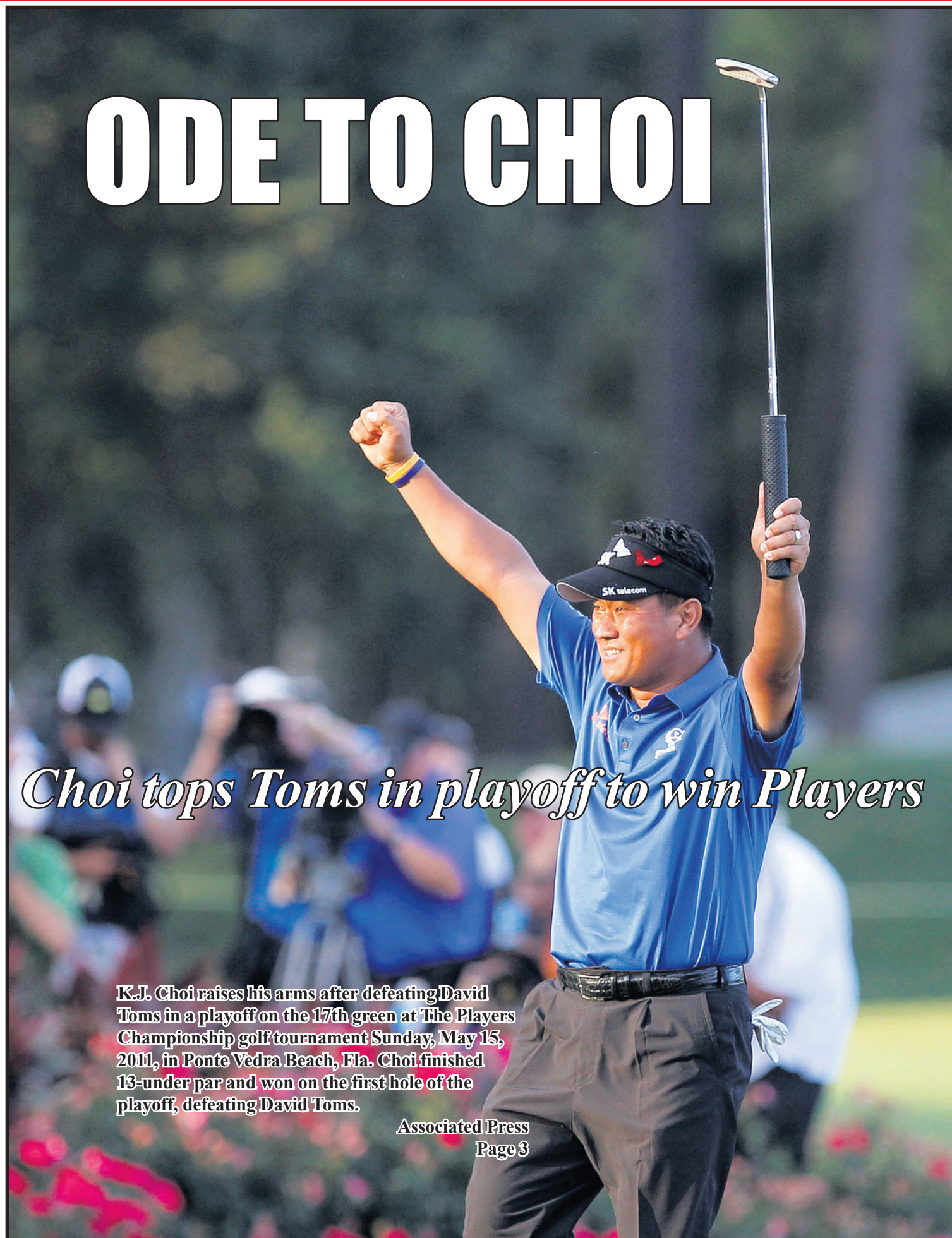
Continued on Page B4

ODE TO CHOI

Choi tops Toms in playoff to win Players

K.J. Choi raises his arms after defeating David Toms in a playoff on the 17th green at The Players Championship golf tournament Sunday, May 15, 2011, in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. Choi finished 13-under par and won on the first hole of the playoff, defeating David Toms.

Associated Press
Page 3



Djokovic beats Nadal for Italian Open title

ANDREW DAMPF

AP Sports Writer

ROME (AP) — Novak Djokovic is just starting to get used to hearing his name mentioned in the same breath as the legends of the game. The seemingly unstoppable Serb stretched his unbeaten start to the season to 37 matches on Sunday with a 6-4, 6-4 win over top-ranked Rafael Nadal in the Italian Open final.

Djokovic's streak trails only John McEnroe's 42-0 start in 1984. Overall, the 23-year-old has won 39 consecutive matches stretching back to Serbia's Davis Cup triumph in December, seven behind Guillermo Vilas' Open era record set in 1977.

"It's an incredible honor to be a part of tennis history in some way and part of an elite group of players — Federer, Nadal, McEnroe, (Ivan) Lendl, guys who were winning so many in a row," Djokovic said. "I don't know how much good it brings to tennis, but it's good that someone else is able to win other than just Federer and Nadal. It makes it more



Serbia's Novak Djokovic celebrates at the end of the men's final match against Spain's Rafael Nadal, at the Italian Open tennis tournament, in Rome, Sunday, May 15, 2011. Associated Press

interesting."

The second-ranked Djokovic has racked up seven titles already this year, and beaten Nadal in all four finals they've played this year.

He defeated the Spaniard for the first time on clay in last week's Madrid Open final and this win makes him the first player to beat Nadal on clay twice in the same year, a feat

that comes exactly a week before the French Open starts.

Djokovic is collecting so many records that he had to take a long pause when asked which one he's most proud of. "I'm just most happy about the game I have this year on clay — the way I'm striking the ball and the way I'm so self-confident," he eventually responded. "I always knew I

could beat the top players, but now I have the confidence to do it."

Djokovic's edge over Nadal could enable him to overtake his rival for the No. 1 ranking the week after the French Open.

"He's doing amazing things. Every match he's very tough mentally and physically," Nadal said. "I'm doing every-

thing I can. I can't ask myself anymore now. I'm doing very well but one player is doing better than me. I am waiting every week to try solutions, so let's see."

Nadal said it's "impossible" for Djokovic's streak to go on forever.

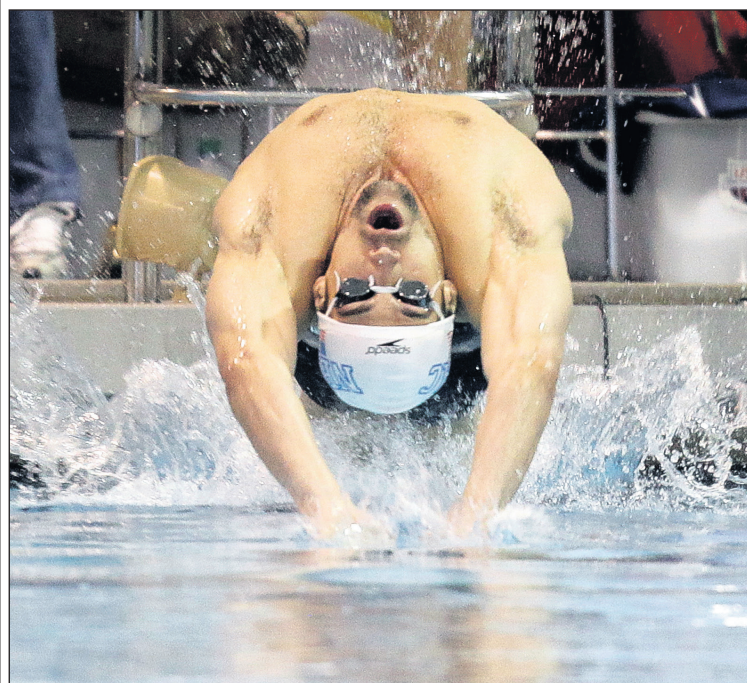
"I have to wait for my moment to win and I know that," the Spaniard said.

Also Sunday, Maria Sharapova stormed to a 6-2, 6-4 win over Sam Stosur in the woman's final for the biggest clay-court title of her career.

After a three-hour rain delay, the seventh-seeded Sharapova won the opening four games, then cruised from there to follow up her victory over top-ranked Caroline Wozniacki in the semifinals.

Sharapova is a three-time Grand Slam winner and Roland Garros remains the only major title she hasn't won. She'll now be among the favorites in Paris.

"This is just the beginning of many things to come. This is just the start of everything," Sharapova said during the trophy presentation. □



Michael Phelps starts the 200-meters backstroke final at the Charlotte UltraSwim competition in Charlotte, N.C., Sunday, May 15, 2011. Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina (AP) — Michael Phelps beat Ryan Lochte in the 200-meter backstroke Sunday at the Charlotte UltraSwim. Phelps, who lost to China's Peng Wu the previous two nights, weighing more on

clocking consistent splits for this USA Grand Prix meet than wins. He finished in 1 minute, 57.20 seconds, passing Lochte after the second turn.

"I saw a splash out of the corner of my eye and saw the

Michael Phelps wins 200 backstroke at Charlotte

green suit, so I knew it was Ryan," said Phelps, winner of 16 Olympic gold medals. "I ended up with two terrible races and one halfway decent one."

Lochte finished in 1:58.82 at Mecklenburg County Aquatic Center.

"I tried my hardest," said Lochte, who said he tweaked his knee on Sunday after first injuring it twisting to get something out of the backseat of his car. "It's fun just going out and racing. This meet wasn't one of my greatest." Hungarian Katinka Hosszu set a meet record of 2:12.29 in the 200 IM, topping Stina Gardell.

"After a week off, we we've working hard, adding more yardage, swimming longer

stuff," Hosszu said. "As the World Championships get closer, I wanted to be swimming faster and faster as this meet went on."

felt I was slow on the first day here."

Rebecca Soni, who raced during the meet's first two days, waited out Sunday's events and won a \$20,000 award based on a points system for the Charlotte meet that factored in the top two FINA scoring events, as well as bonuses for records. Soni, who finished second last season, was followed by Missy Franklin and Eric Shanteau. Franklin, 16 and ineligible to accept the prize money by U.S. college competition rules for any recruitable athlete, overcame last-day fa-

tigue to smash an event record in the 200 back, by nearly 3 seconds, finishing in 2:08.36. Shanteau edged Markus Rogan to win the 200 individual medley in 1:59.82.

"We were exhausted coming into today," said Franklin, who also set the meet mark in the 200 free on Friday. "I kept telling them, 'One more session, guys.' We're all so tired, but really excited. Getting to do events back-to-back is good experience."

Franklin's efforts caught Phelps' eye.

"She can get out and swim with anybody, and isn't at all fazed by it," Phelps said.

Ricky Berens' win in the 100 freestyle (49.46) was his first in almost 10 years in his hometown meet. □

Choi outlasts Toms in a Players playoff

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Florida (AP) —

In a playoff for the first time on the PGA Tour, K.J. Choi conquered an island green and more pressure than he can remember Sunday to win The Players Championship.

The South Korean won't forget the way it ended — and neither will David Toms.

Toms went from narrowly missing an 18-foot birdie putt for the win on the 17th hole at the TPC Sawgrass to missing a 3 1/2-foot comeback putt for par, handing Choi the biggest win of his career.

On a hole that is designed to provide great theater, the finish fell a little flat.

Moments earlier, Toms hit his best shot of the week from a divot in the 18th fairway and made an 18-foot birdie putt — only the fourth birdie on that hole in the final round — that got him into a playoff.

Then came the sudden-death playoff at one of the most infamous par 3s in the world. Toms looked to have the advantage when his shot settled 18 feet away and Choi was on the other side of the green.

But Choi hit a beautiful lag to just inside 3 feet that he ultimately tapped in for his eighth career PGA Tour win, and his first in three years. He became the fourth consecutive international player to win the PGA Tour's premier tournament.

Toms said his short putt was uphill and into the Bermuda grain, and he knew it had to be hit solidly.

"I kind of hit it on the toe and didn't get it rolling, and when I looked up it was left," he said. "It was just a bad putt. No excuses, no spike marks, no ball marks, no nothing. Maybe a lot of pressure. But other than that, there was no excuse."

Choi closed with a 2-under 70, making a par putt from just inside 5 feet that set up the playoff. Toms also finished with a 70, and that short putt he missed on the 17th green might not be the only shot that haunts him. Leading by one, he went for the green on the par-5 16th and hit into the water, leading to a bogey.

This from a guy who was famous 10 years ago for laying up on the par-4 18th at Atlanta Athletic Club to win his lone major at the PGA Championship. Even so, he showed some grit at the end with a birdie on the final hole at Sawgrass, which soon was forgotten.

"I'm disappointed," Toms said. "But the way I played 18 shows that I still can do it when I need to. I've got to work on my putting a little bit. I could have put some distance between myself and my competitors."

So many other players felt they also squandered chances, none more than U.S. Open



K.J. Choi raises his cap after receiving The Players Trophy after defeating David Toms in a playoff in the final round of The Players Championship golf tournament Sunday, May 15, 2011, in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.

Associated Press

champion Graeme McDowell and Nick Watney.

McDowell, who had a one-shot lead when the third round concluded Sunday morning because of rain delays, lost his way after an errant tee shot into the trees on the sixth hole. He hit four shots into the water the rest of the way and closed with a 79.

Watney was in control late in the third round until playing a three-hole stretch in 4-over par, then fell behind with consecutive bogeys at the turn in the final round and could never catch up.

Paul Goydos, who lost a play-

off to Sergio Garcia in 2008 when the tour decided to make the 17th the first playoff hole, closed with a 69 to finish alone in third.

Luke Donald never got on track, but still managed a 71 for his seventh consecutive top 10. He tied for fourth with Watney (71) and moved to No. 2 in the world, giving England the top two spots in the world ranking.

Donald and McDowell wore an all-navy blue outfit in honor of Seve Ballesteros — his famous Sunday colors — who died last week.

Toms took a share of the lead on the second hole and never trailed until the finish.

His bogey on the 16th left him tied with Choi as they headed to the 17th. Choi hit 9-iron to 10 feet and punched the air when he made the putt, giving him a one-shot lead. Toms answered with a 6-iron from the divot and the biggest putt he has made in years.

Then came a miss that unraveled all his work.

Toms and Choi finished at 13-under 275. Choi earned \$1.71 million and likely will move to No. 15 in the world.

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SPORTS BRIEFS

Tour of California snowed out

TRUCKEE, California (AP) — The start of the Tour of California was wiped out Sunday because of snow, forcing organizers to cut the event from eight to seven stages. Before calling off the start, organizers delayed the stage by 2 hours, 45 minutes and shortened the scheduled 118.7-mile road race from South Lake Tahoe to Northstar at Tahoe Resort to 49.2 miles.

When the weather cleared a bit, the 144 riders were signed in at the start and about to compete under a light snowfall, a temperature of 35 degrees and 12 mph wind, but organizers called it off less than a minute before the start. Originally set for 763.8 miles, the race has been cut to 645.1 miles. q

MLS Roundup

Chivas edges Red Bulls 3-2

HARRISON, New Jersey (AP) — Justin Braun scored a hat trick as Chivas USA claimed its third win in four games with a 3-2 victory over the New York Red Bulls on Sunday.

The forward, who came into the game without a goal, opened the scoring in the sixth minute, before Thierry Henry replied with his fifth goal in five games in the 21st.

Braun added his second goal in the 31st minute, but Dwayne De Rosario equalized for New York with a penalty three minutes later.

Braun scored the winner in the 56th minute when he tapped in a couple of feet from the goal line.

The loss ended the Red Bulls' four-game unbeaten streak, but they remain in first place in the Eastern Conference. □



Matt Kenseth crosses the finish line to win the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series auto race Sunday, May 15, 2011, at Dover International Speedway in Dover, Del.

Associated Press

Kenseth led the final 32 laps to win for the second time this season. He also won at Texas and became the third driver to win twice this season.

Under NASCAR's revamped rules for qualifying for the Chase for the championship that emphasize wins, Kenseth strengthened his bid to make the field with his second win.

"My mind is to be up there and try to lead those points going into the Chase and try to make the Chase in championship form," Kenseth said. "We don't want to have to slide off of wins. We want to go up there and race like this every week."

Mark Martin was second and Marcos Ambrose third.

Kyle Busch and Brian Vickers rounded out the top five. Busch was forced to start in the rear of the field because of an engine change.

Kenseth made his Cup debut at Dover in 1998 as a fill-in for Bill Elliott. He won for the second time in the Cup series on the high-banked, 1-mile concrete track.

"It's one of those tracks that's a challenge to get around fast, whether you're racing someone or not," Kenseth said.

The 400-mile race was dominated by long stretches of green flag racing. Jimmie Johnson and Edwards turned this into a two-car battle for first for the majority of the race. Edwards led 117 laps be-

NASCAR Continued from Page B1

fore falling to seventh place. Johnson led a race-high 207 laps and finished ninth.

Unlike Kenseth and crew, Edwards' crew chief Bob Osborne made a four-tire call on the last restart that dropped him to ninth and spoiled his chance at the win.

"I didn't have any choice in it, really," Edwards said. "That's up to the guys in the box. That is too tough of a choice to make right there and I don't blame Bob Osborne one bit."

Regan Smith was 34th a week after he shocked the sport with his first career win at Darlington Raceway.

Busch and Kevin Harvick had no incidents after a pit road dustup at Darlington landed them on probation. Harvick was 10th.

Martin stayed on the track on old tires to take the lead when the caution flag came out with 39 laps left. Kenseth made a quick stop and opted for two tires instead of four, the right number for him to pull pass Martin on the restart and then pull away for the victory.

"We were going to do four, we got in the stall and decided to do two. That was the key," Kenseth said.

Kenseth overruled crew chief Jimmy Fennig and made the call for two tires.

"When I was on the jack, I asked if he was sure we didn't want to try two and he said to put two on," Kenseth said. "It was really Jimmy's call and a good suggestion by me." □

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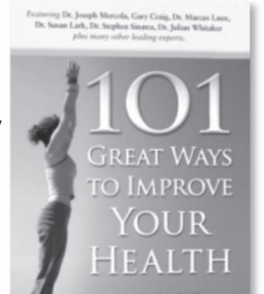
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NBA Playoff

Durant, Thunder beat Griz to reach West finals

By JEFF LATZKE

AP Sports Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY – Coming off his worst performance in the playoffs, Kevin Durant couldn't get his shots to fall again.

Then he caught a glimpse of his mother dancing around during a timeout and, like magic, the ball started going through the net.

Durant scored 39 points for his best offensive outing of the series, Russell Westbrook had his first playoff triple-double and the Oklahoma City Thunder advanced to the Western Conference finals with a 105-90 victory over the Memphis Grizzlies in Game 7 on Sunday.

"I knew she had those dance moves," Durant said. "She used to do it all the time when I was young. She was having fun. I was glad to see that."

Soon enough, he was having fun, too — and the Thunder are two-stepping into Texas for the franchise's first appearance in the West finals since losing in the NBA finals in 1996 as the Seattle SuperSonics.

Game 1 against the Mavericks is Tuesday night in Dallas.

Durant, the NBA scoring champion the past two seasons, followed the lowest-scoring game of his two postseason appearances with one of his

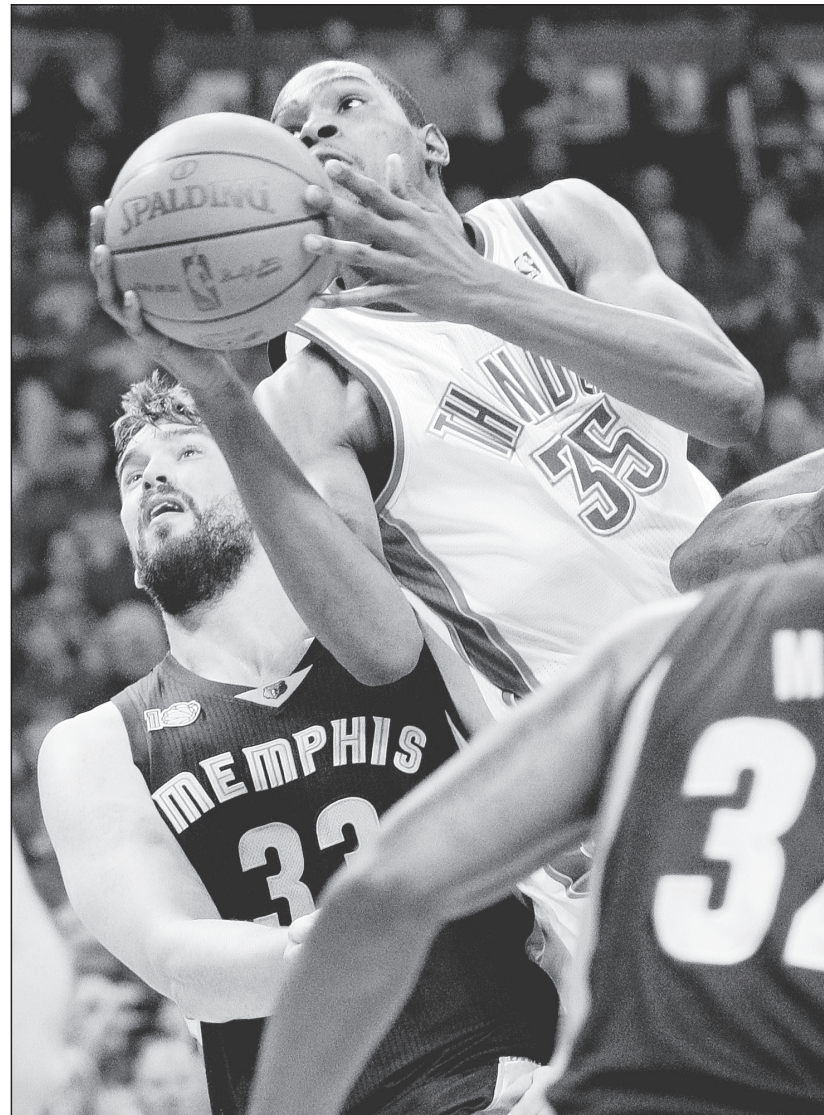
best. He heated up in the second quarter after the entertaining exchange with his mother, put the Thunder in control late in the third, then put it away with a pair of two-handed slams in the fourth.

"Durant is a special player, one of the best players in the NBA," said Memphis star Zach Randolph, who was limited to an inefficient 17 points and 10 rebounds. "The kid is a gym-rat, he works hard. He's one of my favorite players. You've got to give him kudos and give him respect."

"You see what he does night in and night out and he's just relentless."

Westbrook, criticized throughout the playoffs for taking too many shots, was at his all-around best with 14 points, matching his season-high with 14 assists and producing extra possessions with 10 rebounds. It was only the fifth triple-double in a Game 7, according to information provided to the team by the Elias Sports Bureau. Larry Bird, Jerry West, James Worthy and Scottie Pippen also accomplished the feat.

"He gets picked on a little bit, but one of the things (with) Russell, he keeps playing," Thunder coach Scott Brooks said. "He keeps improving, he keeps getting better and tonight he controlled the game." □



Oklahoma City Thunder forward Kevin Durant, center, shoots between Memphis Grizzlies center Marc Gasol, left, of Spain, and guard O.J. Mayo, right, in the first quarter of Game 7 of a second-round NBA basketball playoff series in Oklahoma City, Sunday, May 15, 2011.

Associated Press

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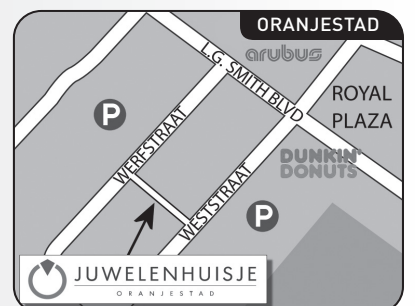
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Bulls take Game 1 from Heat, 103-82

By **ANDREW SELIGMAN**
AP Sports Writer

CHICAGO — Derrick Rose scored 28 points, Luol Deng contained LeBron James and the Chicago Bulls struck first in the Eastern Conference finals, pulling away to beat the Miami Heat 103-82 in Game 1 on Sunday night.

The Bulls are off to a good start in this series after sweeping the Heat during the regular season. They went on a 10-0 run midway through the third quarter, then pulled away in the fourth. As the final minutes ticked away, fans could not contain themselves, chanting “Over-rated!” and “Beat the Heat!”

Game 2 is Wednesday night in Chicago, and they’ll certainly take another performance like this. Rose settled down after committing three early turnovers and showed why he is the MVP. He hit three 3-pointers and the Bulls converted 10 of 21 in all.

Deng had 21 points. He hit four 3s, had four steals, seven rebounds and simply put the clamps on The King, holding

James to 15 points on 5-of-15 shooting.

Carlos Boozer added 14 points and nine rebounds. Joakim Noah had 14 rebounds and the Bulls pounded the Heat on the glass, 45-33. Chris Bosh led Miami with 30 points and nine rebounds. Dwyane Wade scored 18 points, but the Heat simply were overmatched down the stretch.

The Heat were leading 58-57 midway through the third when the Bulls made their run, reeling off 10 straight and seizing the momentum.

Rose and Bogans started it by nailing 3-pointers. A steal by Bogans against Wade led to two free throws by Rose after he got knocked to the floor going for a fast-break layup. Then, after a timeout, Noah blocked a layup by Wade and scored seconds later on a layup off an inbounds along the Bulls’ baseline, making it 67-58.

The Heat’s James Jones stopped the run with a 3, but the Bulls simply weren’t about to be stopped.

When Deng hit a 3 with 1:15

left, the crowd jumped to its feet and let out a roar. More important, that started a 14-3 run that stretched into the fourth and put this one away. Whether it was Boozer feeding Omer Asik for a dunk early in the fourth or Deng racing in to put back his own missed jumper after a 3 by James, there was plenty for the Chicago fans to cheer during that stretch. They were loving it when Ronnie Brewer stole pass from Mario Chalmers and hit two free throws, then dunked to make it 80-66. And when C.J. Watson buried a 3 to put the lead at 17, they just about came unglued.

For at least some Chicago fans, beating Miami to get to the NBA finals would be sweet redemption after what happened during the summer. With enough salary-cap room for two stars, the Bulls went after James, Wade and Bosh in the summer, hoping to land some combination of the two. You know the rest of that story.

The Bulls wound up with a league-leading 62 wins after



Chicago Bulls guard Derrick Rose, right, shoots over the outstretched arm of Miami Heat guard Dwyane Wade during the first quarter in Game 1 of the NBA Eastern Conference Finals basketball series Sunday, May 15, 2011, in Chicago.

Associated Press

hiring Coach of the Year Tom Thibodeau and beefing up their roster with Boozer and solid role players. The biggest boost, of course, came from Rose, who emerged as the league’s youngest MVP and ended James’ two-year run while helping Chicago match its best record since the 1997-98 season, when Michael Jor-

dan and Scottie Pippen completed their second three-peat. Along the way, the Bulls swept three close games from the Heat, winning them by a combined eight points. James missed the first with an ankle injury, Bosh went 1 for 18 in the second and the Heat shed tears after falling to Chicago again in March. □



Vancouver Canucks’ Henrik Sedin, left, celebrates his game-winning goal against the San Jose Sharks with his twin brother Daniel Sedin, both of Sweden, during the third period of in Game 1 of an NHL hockey Stanley Cup Western Conference final playoff series, Sunday, May 15, 2011, in Vancouver, Canada.

Associated Press

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — Defenseman Kevin Bieksa equalized 7:02 into the third period and Henrik Sedin scored from a power play 1:19 later as the Vancouver Canucks came back to open their first Western Conference final in 17 years with a 3-2 victory over the San Jose Sharks on Sunday.

Maxim Lapierre scored his

first of these playoffs, and Roberto Luongo made 27 saves — and a brutal first period giveaway — for the Canucks. Game 2 is Wednesday night in Vancouver.

Joe Thornton and Patrick Marleau scored, and Antti Niemi stopped 35 shots for the Sharks, coming off an emotional, draining Game 7 victory over Detroit on Thursday

NHL Playoffs

Canucks overpower Sharks to win Game 1

night.

San Jose took a 2-1 lead into the third period thanks to a goal on its only power play, and the gift from Luongo. But after failing to finish several great chances late in the second, Vancouver finally converted in the third.

Alex Burrows got behind Dan Boyle on a left wing rush and fed a pass across and back to a pinching Bieksa atop the right faceoff circle. Bieksa’s wrist shot that caught Niemi sliding left and went past his blocker on the other side.

Dany Heatley took an elbowing penalty 32 seconds later, and the Canucks’ power play, which looked terrible its first three chances after leading the NHL in the regular season, finally converted.

A point pass from former Sharks defenseman Christian Ehrhoff got Niemi moving right, and Sedin, whose only other goal in these playoffs was into an empty net, skated onto it the other way, waiting for Niemi to slide past before tucking a backhand shot into the empty net.

San Jose, which almost blew a 3-0 series lead before beating Detroit, went up late in the first period thanks to a generous pass from Luongo to Thornton.

Luongo, who was felled by a teammate’s shot off the mask in the warmups, tried to pass the puck to the top of the left circle from behind the net. But Thornton stepped in front of it and fired his third playoff goal into an empty net.

Vancouver tied it 1:49 into the second period after Niemi’s pass was picked off on the boards and sent back behind the net to Jannik Hansen, who hit Lapierre cutting in front between two defenders for a quick shot past Niemi’s glove. But the Canucks, off since eliminating Nashville on Monday night, couldn’t convert the first three power plays of the game, failing to record even a shot on two.

San Jose wasted little time scoring on its first chance, with Marleau left alone in the slot to deflect Boyle’s point shot over Luongo’s glove. It was the second goal in two games for the oft-criticized Marleau, whose first point of the conference semifinals turned into the Game 7 winner. □

Sony begins partial PlayStation Network operation

TOKYO (AP) — Sony began restoring its PlayStation Network service in the United States and Europe on Sunday after shutting down the service almost a month ago due to a massive security breach affecting over 100 million online accounts.

Restored operations are mainly limited to online gaming, chat and music streaming services. Sony said it aimed to fully restore the PlayStation Network by the end of May. Sony also began Sunday a phased restoration of its Qriocity movie and music services which share the PlayStation Network's server, said Sony Computer Entertainment Inc. spokesman Satoshi Fukuoka. Limited services will also resume in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the Middle East, and Sony said it will start restoring the service for users in Asia soon.

Sony's PlayStation network is a system that links gamers worldwide in live play. Sony shut it down on April 20 after discovering a hacker attack and said personal data, including credit card numbers, may have been stolen. But the

company said Sunday it had not received any reports of the stolen information being used illegally.

Kazuo Hirai, chief of Sony Corp.'s PlayStation video game unit, said in a statement that the company has beefed up security measures to protect customers' personal data. He offered "sincere regret" for any inconvenience caused by the network intrusion.

While the partial service allows users to enjoy video games and online chat, Sony said consumers still cannot buy video games or other content by using credit cards.

"While we understand the importance of getting our services back online, we did not rush to do so at the expense of extensively and aggressively testing our enhanced security measures," Hirai said.

Among the 100 million user accounts, Sony said about 92 million can access the limited PlayStation network service. The network serves both the PlayStation video game machines and Sony's Qriocity movie and music services. It is a system that also allows users to upgrade and download



In this Jan. 27, 2011 photo, Sony Computer Entertainment President and CEO Kazuo Hirai speaks how to use its new PlayStation Portable "NGP" at PlayStation Meeting 2011 in Tokyo.

Associated Press

games and other content. Sony spokesman Sosuke Kamei said the company's probe into the hacker attack was ongoing. He declined to give details on the investigation. Sony came under heavy criticism over its handling of the network intrusion. The company did not notify consum-

ers of the breach until April 26 even though it began investigating unusual activity on the network from April 19.

Last month, U.S. lawyers filed a lawsuit against Sony on behalf of lead plaintiff Kristopher Johns for negligent protection of personal data and failure to inform players in a

timely fashion that their credit card information may have been stolen. The lawsuit seeks class-action status.

Since the shutdown of the PlayStation Network on April 20, Sony's share price has dropped nearly nine percent to close at 2,241 yen (\$28) on Friday. □

Twitter feed lawsuit underscores the power of a tweet

By MARCUS WOHLSEN

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — When Adorian Deck was home sick from high school, he entertained himself like countless other teenagers have in recent years: He started a Twitter account. Unlike other teenagers, Deck's account became a sensation. Deck, under the handle (at)OMGFacts, tweeted random bits of celebrity gossip and quirky trivia. In less than a year, he had attracted more than 300,000 followers.

Now Deck, 17, is suing a business partner who promised to take OMG Facts to the next level, but who the Northern California teen says deceived him into turning over the rights to his creation.

"It was kind of a slow process of realizing what exactly was going on," Deck said. "I was starting to lose more and more control."

A federal lawsuit over rights to a Twitter feed might sound like a case of bringing a grenade launcher to a squirrel hunt. But the court fight over OMG Facts reminds that the power of a tweet can extend well beyond 140 characters.

For both sides, the dispute is not so much over who can claim any of the more than 5,500 tweets to the (at)OMGFacts account as who owns the rights to the potentially lucrative OMG Facts brand. □

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Late payments on mortgages fall again in first quarter

By EILEEN AJ CONNELLY
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — The number of homeowners making late payments — or no payments — on their mortgages fell for the fifth straight quarter in the first three months of 2011. But the figure remains stubbornly high compared with the pre-crisis norm, likely because of the huge backlog of homes waiting to be foreclosed.

The rate of borrowers nationwide who were 60 days or more past due on their mortgage payments fell to 6.19 percent for the three months ended March 31, according to credit reporting agency TransUnion. That was down from 6.77 percent at the same time last year.

Delinquency rates were highest in Florida, at 14.37 percent, down from 14.65 percent a year ago, followed by last year's leader, Nevada, at 14.19 percent, down from 15.98 percent. Arizona was next, at 9.14 percent, compared with 10.94 percent in the 2010 first quarter. California, fourth at 8.58 percent, showed the biggest drop of any state in the past year, falling from 10.68 percent. These four states were the hardest hit by the housing meltdown.

North and South Dakota continue to have the lowest delinquency rates in the country, at 1.54 percent and 2.53 percent, respectively.

South Dakota's rate actually rose, from 2.44 percent last year, one of nine states that saw an increase in late payments compared with last year. The biggest increase was in Maine, where delinquency climbed to 5.04 percent of borrowers, from 4.64 percent in the 2010 first quarter.

While the rates in most states and the nationwide rate are down from their peaks, they are still not near the pre-recession normal of around 2 percent, said Tim Martin, TransUnion's group vice president for the U.S. housing market. Nor has the mortgage delinquency rate improved as much as similar statistics for credit cards or auto loans.

"It's still a long way from the norm, and not improving as much as some of the other credit types," he said.

One reason for the rate to remain stubbornly high is the length of time it takes to foreclose on a house. There are up to 3.7 million seriously delinquent homes in the country, according to some estimates. And foreclosure listing firm RealtyTrac Inc. said last week that processing delays appear to be getting worse. In states like New York, for example, it now takes an average of more than two years for a home to go from the initial stage of foreclosure to being repossessed by a bank. □



Galaxy Macau casino opens to lucrative market

By KELVIN CHAN,
AP Business Writer

MACAU (AP) — The Galaxy Macau, a multibillion-dollar casino resort complex, opened Sunday as Macau aims to draw a broader mix of visitors than the high-rolling mainland Chinese who have helped the city become the world's most lucrative gambling market.

To the crackle of firecrackers and the beat of a traditional Chinese lion dance, officials christened the Galaxy Entertainment Group's newest casino as a line of customers waiting to enter snaked around the building.

The casino, with 450 gambling tables and space for up to 1,500 slot machines, is the only one scheduled to open in the southern Chinese city this year.

The \$1.9 billion complex also boasts a 40,000-square foot wave pool and an artificial beach built with 350 tons of white sand. Guests can stay at three hotels, including one run by Singapore's Banyan Tree and another by Japan's Okura, with a total of 2,200 rooms. Tropical and Japanese



A general view of Galaxy Macau is seen in Macau, Sunday, May 15, 2011. The Galaxy Macau, a multibillion-dollar casino resort complex, opened Sunday as Macau aims to draw a broader mix of visitors than the high-rolling mainland Chinese who have helped the city become the world's most lucrative gambling market.

Associated Press

gardens, a Japanese tea pavilion, a Scottish-themed whiskey bar, 50 restaurants, a private members' club and a shopping street are other draws. A nine-screen 3-D movie theater is to open later this year.

The launch of Macau's 34th ca-

sino comes as the city seeks to diversify its economy away from gambling after years of searing growth that helped it overtake Las Vegas as the world's top casino market.

Macau's casino profits have been boosted by high-spending

new momentum not driven by gaming culture," said Galaxy Chairman Lui Che-woo, a Hong Kong-based billionaire who built his fortune on property and construction. The company expects a third of visitors to be high-rollers while the rest will be the so-called mass market, said Galaxy Vice Chairman Francis Lui, who is Lui Che-woo's son.

Galaxy is hoping to attract visitors from other Asian countries such as Japan who will stay at least two days, half a day longer than average, Francis Lui said. The average length of stay for Las Vegas visitors is 3.6 days.

Francis Lui added that the casino has capacity to add another 150 gambling tables, depending on demand.

Galaxy Entertainment operates five other casinos in Macau, a special administrative region of China and the only place in the country where casinos are legal. It competes with market leader SJM Holdings Ltd., as well as Las Vegas Sands Corp., Wynn Resorts, MGM Resorts and Melco Crown Entertainment Ltd.

Macau's economy has boomed since a four-decade casino monopoly was broken up in 2002, opening the way for U.S. and Australian operators to enter the market with local partners. Monthly casino revenues so far in 2011 have grown by at least 33 percent, after surging by more than half last year to \$23.5 billion. The Las Vegas strip, in contrast, raked in \$5.8 billion in revenue in 2010. Unlike Vegas, Macau has few attractions that don't involve gambling.

"We are happy to follow the Macau government's development strategy and build



In this Dec. 13, 2010 file photo, a police officer walks beside a cordon for a crime scene in a heavily guarded commercial "safe" zone in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico.

Associated Press

U.S. reluctant to open businesses in Mexico

By MARTHA MENDOZA,
AP National Writer

MCALLEN, Texas (AP) — Dozens of Mattel Inc. employees were on their way to another day of work making Power Wheels in Mexico's industrial heartland when gunshots erupted around them and a grenade ripped into one of their buses, killing one worker and wounding five.

The battle between drug traffickers and the army near the city of Monterrey last week was the sort of violence that is frightening U.S. companies away from new investments south of the border, where organized criminals are increasingly turning to kidnappings, extortion and cargo thefts despite a government offensive against drug cartels.

"These acts of violence are not happening in a vacuum; they're happening in the street that could be right out in front of your building. Bullets get shot and they have to stop somewhere," said Dan Burges, a senior director at Freight-watch Inc., an Austin-based cargo security firm.

As a result, only half of the U.S. firms surveyed recently about how big a role Galaxy will play in helping Macau diversify its economy. □

plans in Mexico and several companies, including Whirlpool Corp., have recently announced they would put new factories elsewhere citing concerns about safety.

More than 35,000 people have died in drug-related violence since President Felipe Calderon deployed thousands of federal security forces four years ago to fight traffickers. In recent months, nearly 400 bodies have been pulled from mass graves in the northern states of Tamaulipas and Durango. There are near-daily reports of drug-gang executions, kidnappings and extortion.

The army said the Mattel workers were apparently caught in crossfire on May 6 when attackers believed to be working for the Zetas cartel assaulted a military convoy with guns and a grenade launcher from a highway overpass on the outskirts of Monterrey.

"The people of Mattel were shocked and incredibly saddened" by the attack, the company said in a statement released by spokesman Jules Andres.

But battles between government and cartel forces are increasingly common, and companies and their workers are inevitably affected.

One out of 10 companies reported kidnappings and 60 percent said their employees were beaten or threatened in 2010, according to the U.S.-Mexico Chamber of Commerce.

And cargo thefts from trucks and trains are rampant and soaring.

Cargo thefts cost businesses about \$700 million last year, a 40 percent increase over the past three years, according to the National Multimodal Transport Alliance.

Entire trailer-loads of newly built cars were stolen this year along major highways in the states of Tamaulipas, Nuevo Leon, Morelos and Sinaloa. Some truck drivers refuse to drive through dangerous areas including Ciudad Juarez, where officials say criminals typically extort about \$70 to pass without harm.

Increasingly, cargo thieves are stealing selectively, things like industrial chemicals or specially processed metals, at the request of specific clients, according to Mexico's Freight and Auto Transport Association.

Businesses in Mexico factor in payments to organized crime syndicates as part of the cost of doing business. □

Yahoo, Alibaba: We're "committed to" negotiations

By CHRISTINA REXRODE,
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Yahoo Inc. and Alibaba Group released a joint statement Sunday saying they are "engaged in and committed to productive negotiations," giving few details but aiming to present a united front as tension grows between the two tech giants. Silicon Valley-based Yahoo owns 43 percent of Alibaba, a powerful Internet company in China, but the relationship has been strained.

On Tuesday, Yahoo surprised Wall Street when it said that Alibaba had spun off its online payment service, Alipay. Investors, worried that Yahoo's stake in Alibaba will now become less

valuable, sent the stock down. Yahoo closed at \$16.55 on Friday, down 11 percent from its Tuesday close. The one-sentence statement, released Sunday afternoon, said: "Alibaba Group, and its major stockholders Yahoo! Inc. and Softbank Corporation, are engaged in and committed to productive negotiations to resolve the outstanding issues related to Alipay in a manner that serves the interests of all shareholders as soon as possible." The statement echoed an equally vague statement that Yahoo had made Tuesday. Dana Lengkeek, a Yahoo spokeswoman, declined to comment on questions about who was involved in the negotiations or what Yahoo wants from them. Representatives

for Alibaba and Softbank, a Japanese firm that is also a longtime investor in Alibaba, didn't immediately return messages for comment. Alibaba's success has helped bolster Yahoo as the Sunnyvale, California, company has struggled to keep up with Google Inc. The six-year investment has also been a way for Yahoo to keep a foothold in fast-growing China after it and other companies, including Google, have had a hard time growing their own businesses in the heavily regulated and politicized country. In the first quarter, Yahoo's net income fell 28 percent. The net income of Alibaba.com, the flagship company of Alibaba Group, rose 37 percent. In Tuesday's regulatory filing, Yahoo

said that Alibaba had spun off Alipay to another company owned by Alibaba Group's CEO, Jack Ma, so it could more quickly obtain "an essential regulatory license." Yahoo also said at the time that it was engaged with Alibaba and Softbank in "ongoing discussions regarding the terms of the restructuring and the appropriate commercial arrangements related to the online payment business." Ma has become more antagonistic since Carol Bartz, a brash Silicon Valley veteran, became Yahoo's CEO in January 2009. With Alipay under his control, analysts believe Ma could have more negotiating power if Yahoo tries to sell its stake in Alibaba. □

'Thor' hammers 'Bridesmaids' at box office



FILE - In this film publicity image released by Paramount Pictures, Chris Hemsworth portrays the title character in a scene from the film, 'Thor.' 'Thor' kicked off the summer movie season by smashing the competition at the box office with a \$66 million opening weekend.

Associated Press

U.S. evangelist Billy Graham released from hospital

MIAMI - Evangelist Billy Graham was released on Sunday from a North Carolina hospital where he had been treated for pneumonia, the hospital said. Graham, 92, returned to his home in Montreat, North Carolina, after a five-day stay at Mission Hospital in nearby Asheville, North Carolina. Doctors said his response to treatment was "excellent" but that his recovery would be slow. "We expect continuing recuperation at home with very gradual recovery, returning to normal activities over several weeks. I'm delighted that he has come back this fast," Dr. Lucian Rice said in a statement released by the hospital. Graham thanked the hospital staff and said he had been "deeply touched by the prayers and best wishes of so many people" and that he looked forward to resuming normal activities soon. Graham, one of the best-known American evangelists, has retired and his son Franklin Graham now leads his Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. □

By **DERRIK J. LANG**,
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES - "Thor" nailed down the No. 1 spot at the box office again.

Paramount's 3-D superhero film starring Chris Hemsworth as Marvel's hammer-toting god of thunder earned \$34.5 million in its second weekend, according to studio estimates Sunday.

That brings the total haul of "Thor" to \$119.2 million, though not quite as impressive as fellow comic book hero "Iron Man 2," which earned \$211.2 million by its second weekend the same time last year.

"Thor" had a really great playing field to work on for its second weekend in theaters," said Paul Dergarabedian, box office analyst for Hollywood.com. "For a big-budget Marvel Comics film that opened very solidly to drop only 48 percent indicates some very strong word of mouth. I think Kenneth Branagh being the director really brought a lot to the table."

Universal's "Bridesmaids," the raunchy comedy starring Kristen Wiig as a down-on-her-luck maid of honor, debuted above expectations in second place with \$24.4 million. Nikki Rocco, head of distribution for Universal, attributed the movie's good reviews and word of mouth to wide audience appeal: 67 percent of the audience was female; 33 percent male.

"That's pretty good considering this is a picture titled 'Bridesmaids,'" said Rocco.

The next adversary for "Thor" arrives next week with the opening of "Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides," the fourth film in the blockbuster Disney franchise starring Johnny Depp as mischievous pirate Capt. Jack Sparrow. On Memorial Day weekend come the sequels "The Hangover Part II" from Warner Bros. and "Kung Fu Panda 2" from Paramount. "The cavalry is about to arrive," said Dergarabedian. "We're poised for a strong Memorial Day weekend. We're down year-to-date about 13 percent on revenue. A month ago, we were down 20 percent. We're making up ground, and this weekend was down only 3 percent, which is impressive considering the strength of 'Iron Man 2' in its second weekend a year ago." Universal's car-racing sequel "Fast Five" with Dwayne Johnson shifted into the third position with \$19.5 million in its third weekend in theaters.

Sony's 3-D vampire-hunting graphic novel adaptation "Priest" opened in fourth place with \$14.5 million, while Fox's animated bird tale "Rio" landed at fifth place with \$8 million in its fifth weekend in theaters.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. □

Azerbaijan wins Eurovision Song Contest

By **FRANK AUGSTEIN**

and **MELISSA EDDY**,

Associated Press

DUESSELDORF, Germany - A mother of two and an international relations student from Azerbaijan beat out the much-hyped Irish twins and 23 other finalists Saturday to secure their nation's first-ever win in the Eurovision Song Contest.

Nigar Jamal and Eldar Gasimov, who go by the name Ell/Nikki, won 220 points for their classic pop ballad with a catchy refrain, "Running Scared," meaning next year's songfest will be hosted in Baku.

"I'm the happiest man in the world right now," Gasimov, 22, shouted to the crowd of 36,000 who packed the Fortuna Duesseldorf Arena to watch the show.

In the past three years, Azerbaijan has finished in the first 10 at the songfest, but have never before reached the top. "It's unbelievable our dream came true," Jamal, 30, said after winning the title.

"I've never been a singer before, I was a housewife, a mother of two children," she

said. "It was my dream to become a singer and now my dream has come true."

The pair, clad in a white suit and a floaty white gown, were awarded the trophy from Germany's 19-year-old Lena Meyer-Landruth, who had sought to make history by defending her title for a second consecutive year in a row. She finished 10th with the sultry "Taken By A Stranger."

Second place went to Italy — back in competition after a 14-year hiatus — with 189 points for Raphael Gualazzi for his jazz number "Madness of Love." Close behind him in third place was Sweden's Eric Saade, singing the dance pop song "Popular," with 185 points. Azerbaijan had been among the entries favored to win heading into the competition, but other favorites, including the much-hyped Irish duo Jedward, nor the British bookies' top pick, French tenor Amaury Vassili, came in among the top 10 finishers. Several entries held up the competition's reputation for quirky, kitschy costumes, with the boys from Jedward wearing sparkling red space jackets



Ell/Nikki, Nigar Jamal and Eldar Gasimov, from Azerbaijan sing their winning song 'Running Scared' during the final of the Eurovision Song Contest 2011 in Duesseldorf, Germany, Saturday, May 14, 2011.

(AP Photo/Frank Augstein) and spiky quiffed hairdos and Moldova's punk rock entry taking the stage sporting tall, conical caps and featuring a woman on a unicycle. More than 120 million viewers around the globe tune in to watch the spectacle that has taken place every year since 1951. Organizers said the production cost (EURO)12 million (\$17 million). □



FILE - Actress Kim Cattrall arrives for the screening of the film 'Meet Monica Velour' at the 36th American Film Festival.

(AP Photo/Michel Spingler, FILE)

Cattrall, 'Kids Are All Right' win GLAAD awards

SAN FRANCISCO - Kim Cattrall and "The Kids Are All Right" were among the winners Saturday night at the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation's 22nd annual Media Awards.

The "Sex and the City" star was honored with the Golden Gate Award, which is presented to a media professional who has increased the visibility and understanding of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities.

The Oscar-nominated family drama "The Kids Are All Right," starring Annette Bening and Julianne Moore as lesbian mothers, was awarded the outstanding film trophy at the GLAAD ceremony at the Marriott Marquis in San Francisco.

Other winners included "8: The Mormon Proposition" for documentary, Christian Chavez as Spanish-language music artist, Kara Swisher as local hero and AT&T as corporate leader.

The GLAAD Media Awards honor media for accurate and inclusive representations of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities. Other awards were previously presented at ceremonies in New York on March 19 and Los Angeles on April 10. □

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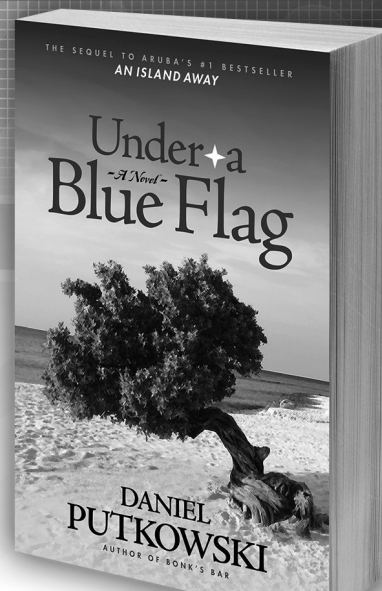


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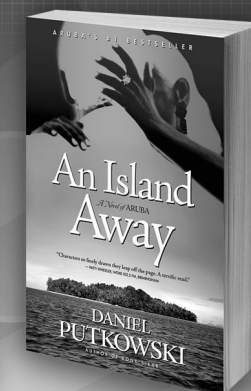
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Ssh, no talking: Silent movie charms Cannes fest



Actors Jean Dujardin, left, and Berenice Bejo pose during a photo call for *The Artist*, at the 64th international film festival, in Cannes, southern France, Sunday, May 15, 2011

(AP Photo/Lionel Cironneau)

Mexico town's mutant pointy boots create a craze

By OLGA R. RODRIGUEZ,
Associated Press

MATEHUALA, Mexico — The customer known only as "Cesar of Huizache" had an odd request for shoemaker Dario Calderon: He showed him a cell-phone photo of a sequined cowboy boot with pointy toes so long, they curled up toward the knees. He wanted a pair, but with longer toes.

"I thought 'What's up with this dude?'" Calderon said at his shop in Matehuala, a northeastern Mexican city of farmers and cattle ranchers accustomed to a more stoic cowboy look. The boot in the photo measured 60 centimeters (23 inches) "but we made him a pair that were 90 centimeters (35 inches) long."

The mystery man from Huizache, a nearby village, wore his new boots to Mesquit Rodeo nightclub, where he danced bandido style with a handkerchief hiding his mouth and nose "He was dancing and having a good time and he didn't care what people were saying about him," said Fernando Lopez, the master of ceremonies at the rodeo-themed disco. Then he disappeared.

The next thing Calderon knew, it seemed like everyone wanted the bizarre, half-Aladdin, all-Vegas pointy boots, from little boys attending church ceremonies to teenagers at the discos.

Calderon fashioned the elongated toes from plastic foam and charged 400 pesos (\$34) for the extensions. The competition began charging 350 pesos (\$30) per 15 centimeters (6 inches) of new toe. □

By DAVID GERMAIN,
AP Movie Writer

CANNES, France — The talk Sunday at the Cannes Film Festival was about the movie that doesn't talk: a silent film about a 1920s Hollywood star toppled by the age of talkies. French director Michel Hazanavicius' "The Artist" employs lush music, well-chosen but restrained sound effects and no spoken words save in one brief scene. The result is an old-timey comic melodrama about the pitfalls of artistic pride and the power of romantic redemption that earned sustained applause at its first press screening, a rarity for notoriously snooty Cannes critics.

A last-minute addition to the

lineup of 20 films competing for the festival's top honor, the Palme d'Or, "The Artist" is shot in black and white, conveys its limited dialogue through silent-movie title cards and is presented in the boxy format of early cinema instead of today's widescreen panoramas.

"We live in a time when people are crazy about 3-D films, people are crazy about technical innovation. Everything seems to be focused on images, and suddenly someone wanted to tell a very odd tale using this format that is a silent movie in black and white," "The Artist" producer Thomas Langmann said before the film's official Cannes premiere Sunday

night.

"The Artist" spins the tale of the fictional George Valentin (Jean Dujardin, who also starred in Hazanavicius' James Bond spoofs "OSS 117: Cairo, Nest of Spies" and "OSS 117: Lost in Rio") a silent-era superstar who has wealth, fame, fawning fans and an adorably clever dog who shares the screen with him. George finds himself cast aside as talking pictures arrive and the 1929 market crash finishes him off financially. Meanwhile, rising star Peppy Miller (Berenice Bejo, who costarred in "OSS 117: Cairo, Nest of Spies"), who owes her career to a few small kindnesses from George, seeks to return the favor. □

'X-Men' vet Janssen peers through director's lens

By DAVID GERMAIN,
AP Movie Writer

CANNES, France — Getting downsized out of screen roles is inevitable for most actors, - and particularly actresses - as they get into their 40s and beyond. With her writing-directing debut, Famke Janssen is taking the do-it-yourself route to ensuring she still has a film career. Janssen's mother-son comic drama "Bringing Up Bobby," starring Milla Jovovich, is playing in the huge movie market that accompanies the Cannes Film Festival, where the filmmaker hopes to find distributors to put it into theaters in the United States and elsewhere. The 46-year-old Janssen aims for a career balance of acting and directing. "I'm hoping that I can juggle both for a little bit, at least," Janssen said in an in-



In this photo taken Friday, May 13, 2011, actress Famke Janssen poses for a portrait as she promotes the film *Bringing Up Bobby* at the 64th international film festival in Cannes, southern France.

(AP Photo/Joel Ryan)

terview. "The older you get as a woman, the less parts you'll have just by nature. And then I really don't want to go down the whole plastic surgery route and become obsessed with the way I look, which is very much a part of being an actress, sadly. Jans-

sen, who played telepath Jean Grey in the "X-Men" franchise and a James Bond villain who crushes victims with her legs in "GoldenEye," took a couple of years off from big-screen acting to raise money to get her own film off the ground. □

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5/16

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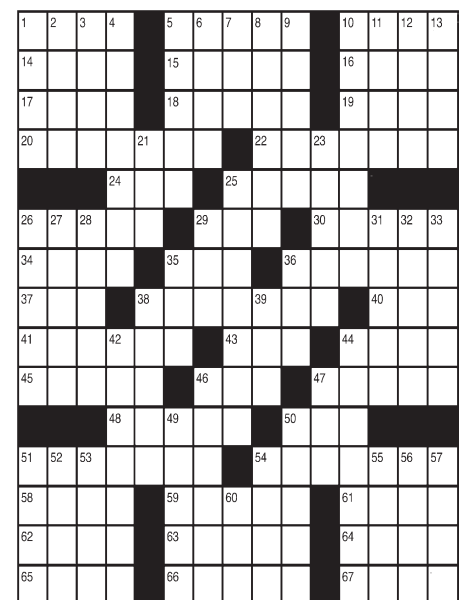
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5/16

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6	Rank and __; commoners					G	O	O	N		I	D	A			
7	Org. once led by J. Edgar Hoover	C	O	R	A	L	S		D	I	A	R	I	S	T	S
8	Wiped away	O	P	E	R	A		D	I	N	G	Y		H	I	P
9	Speeder's nemesis	L	I	P	S		G	U	S	T	O		L	A	N	E
10	Astonished	I	N	E		G	E	C	K	O		B	A	R	G	E
11	Port or chablis	C	E	L	L	I	S	T	S		W	I	N	D	E	D
12	Part of the eye		A	N	T		S	I	L	K						
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1 Light-colored

23 As much as	35 La Toya, to Tito	50 Encounters
26 Italian cars	36 Gents	51 Grouch
27 Element whose	38 Earn; deserve	52 Residence
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28 Bullwinkle, e.g.	42 Snake	54 Smudge
29 ___ and hers	44 Tell, as a story	55 Notion
31 Home of logs	46 Wine container	56 Red planet
32 Clickety-___	47 Cleaning cloth	57 TV show award
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[illegible]

Niño fugado a Chile se reencuentra con su madre en Bolivia



Franklin Vilca Hanaco, de 10 años, es abrazado por su madre Zenobia Huanaco, en la terminal de autobuses, tras reencontrarse con ella en Cochabamba, Bolivia, el sábado 14 de mayo del 2011 (AP foto).

BOLIVIA (AP) - Un drama con final feliz vivió Zenobia Huanaco el sábado, cuando se reencontró el sábado con su pequeño Franklin de 10 años, el niño que huyó de Bolivia en el chasis de un camión en

busca de su madre y terminó por error en Chile. “Finalmente estoy con mi hijo, me siento feliz y alegre y no pienso separarme más de él”, dijo la mujer a The Associated Press poco después de

abrazar a Franklin a su arribo de Chile el sábado.

“Estoy bien y feliz con mi mami. Bien me han tratado en Chile, la señora Margarita me cuidó bien”, dijo el pequeño a su llegada a la terminal ter-

restre de la ciudad de Cochabamba, en el centro de Bolivia, donde vive su madre. El pequeño anunció que regresará a la escuela.

La abogada María Elena Valencia del servicio social de la gobernación recogió al menor de la autoridades chilenas en la pequeña ciudad de Iquique en el norte chileno.

La historia del pequeño polizón conmovió a Chile y Bolivia después de que la televisión estatal chilena divulgó el caso. El niño escapó de la casa de su padre en la ciudad andina de Oruro luego de que un hermano mayor lo castigó, y se ocultó en la caja de herramientas de un camión pensando llegar a Cochabamba, pero viajó más de 1.000 kilómetros y terminó en Alto Hospicio, ciudad chilena vecina de Iquique.

El ama de casa chilena Margarita Flores lo encontró hambriento y vagando en las calles y lo acogió en su hogar hasta reportar el caso a las autoridades.

El menor viajó más de dos días oculto en una pequeña caja

metálica sin agua ni alimentos, con escasa ropa abrigada, y soportó temperaturas bajo cero. Es un milagro que haya sobrevivido a tan bajas temperaturas del altiplano boliviano y chileno, según las autoridades.

Su madre cumplió una condena de poco más de tres años por transportar químicos para fabricar cocaína y aún no está autorizada a salir del país, por lo que no pudo viajar a Chile a recoger al niño.

El padre de Franklin tenía la custodia de los cuatro hijos en Oruro e inició una nueva relación conyugal. Huanaco dijo que sus hijos aceptaron volver con ella y retornarán a su pueblo altiplánico de Sica Sica, 100 kilómetros al sur de La Paz, donde se unirán al negocio familiar de faena de reses. “Quiero juntarme con todos mis hijos para irme a vivir a mi pueblo”, dijo la madre boliviana, una indígena de origen quechua.

La mujer, de 45 años, agradeció a la chilena Flores, quien le prometió visitar al niño en Bolivia. □

Presidente de Venezuela descarta operación en rodilla

VENEZUELA (AP)- El presidente venezolano Hugo Chávez afirmó el domingo que se recupera de la lesión que sufrió en una rodilla y dijo que los médicos descartaron realizarle una cirugía.

El mandatario dijo que aminoran la inflamación y el dolor en la rodilla izquierda que se lastimó hace una semana. “El dolor ha disminuido en cerca de un 70 por ciento. Ya no es un dolor permanente sino que sólo ocurre cuando me muevo un poco; y la inflamación ... también ha disminuido”, agregó.

Chávez había dicho hace días que sus médicos consideraban someterlo a una cirugía artroscópica.

Sin embargo, el jefe de estado dijo por teléfono a la televisión estatal que los médicos descar-

taron la operación de momento, aunque cree que estará con muletas durante una o dos semanas.

“En este momento, se descarta cualquier intervención o artroscopía; intervención quirúrgica, pues. Esto no quita que pueda ser necesario en el futuro, pero va comportándose”, indicó “Me han retirado la inmovilización rígida. Queda ahora un soporte elastisado (elástico), protector de la rodilla, de la articulación”, indicó. “Ojalá que esto siga evolucionando así de manera positiva”.

Debido a la lesión, Chávez canceló la gira que realizaría por Brasil, Ecuador y Cuba, y no ha aparecido en público. Chávez dijo que la lesión ocurrió cuando trotaba haciendo ejercicio y se golpeó la rodilla. □

Ecuador y Colombia impulsan proyecto geotérmico

COLOMBIA (AP) - Colombia y Ecuador suscribieron un convenio para ejecutar un proyecto geotérmico binacional que busca generar unos 138 megavatios en una zona de la frontera común, se informó el domingo.

Las empresas Corporación Eléctrica del Ecuador (Celec) y la Empresa de Servicios Públicos de Colombia (ISAGEN) estarán a cargo del desarrollo, planificación y ejecución del

proyecto Tufiño-Chiles-Cerro Negro, que comprenderá unas 4.900 hectáreas, informó la agencia de noticias estatal Andes.

El programa geotérmico, que se realizará en una zona volcánica de la provincia del Carchi sobre la frontera común, unos 150 kilómetros al noreste de Quito, permitirá “la utilización de energía renovable y la gestión sustentable en la

región”, agregó el reporte.

La primera fase del estudio requerirá una inversión de 2,5 millones de dólares que se cubrirán de manera conjunta, añadió.

Ecuador y Colombia al igual que otros países de la región analizan los mecanismos para la interconexión común, en la que las dos primeras naciones ya tienen experiencia, especialmente durante épocas de estiaje. □

Keiko Fujimori favorita en Perú



LIMA - La candidata conservadora Keiko Fujimori mantiene una ventaja frente al nacionalista Ollanta Humala faltando tres semanas para el balotaje presidencial de Perú, según dos estudios divulgados el domingo, aunque uno mostró un virtual empate. En un simulacro de votación realizado por la firma Ipsos Apoyo, Fujimori obtendría un 51,1 por ciento de los sufragios, mientras que Humala lograría el 48,9 por ciento. (AP Photo/Martin Mejia)

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